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John Murray's Landfall

A Romance And a Foregleam

Pearly morn and fervid noon,
Raining diamonds on the sea,
Evening rapt in mystery,
Tender light of star, of moon:

Author of "Christus Victor," "Mystery of the West," etc.

So the wonders of the deep
Sank into my very soul;
Strove to make the heart-break whole,
As my spirit lay asleep.

G. P. Putnam's Sons
New York and London
The Knickerbocker Press

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By

Henry Nehemiah Dodge

Author of "Christus Victor," "Mystery of the West," etc.

Illustrated

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HENRY NEHEMIAH DODGE

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"Man is of heavenly extraction, is in his nature allied to the heavenly state in which he was created before he was formed of the dust of the earth. . . . Were the earth with all her vines and fruits my own this moment, on condition that I should give up the riches which I see in this heavenly relation, my bargain would make me poor."

HOSEA BALLOU.

"He that toucheth humanity toucheth the apple of God's eye."

"God knew how much the gift of life would cost us. He did not give it frivolously and carelessly. He gave it because of the magnificent results that He purposes from it."

BASIL WILBERFORCE.

"In the past days religion sang of a ruined race and a world under the Divine wrath and curse. Cannot we set to music the ideal of a rising humanity and the good news of a world under God's love and blessing?"

JOHN HUNTER.



NOTE

IN *John Murray's Landfall* the poet has sung the romance of a rare soul in the shaping for a mighty work: flamed upon in the forge of God by the fires of love, of death, of religious passion, bruised by the scorn of men, overwhelmed by despair, and, finally, startled into new life by the commanding faith of a lowly seeker after Truth.

Among the forces that are slowly but irresistibly re-moulding the ideals of mankind—religious, political, and social—first and most powerful is the conception of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. This supreme vision, at best but dimly seen, is waking new life in the churches of Christendom and kindling new hopes in the nations and kindreds of the earth. Nor has our civilization seen a greater epoch, since the advent of Christ, than that born of this conception of the divine origin

and destiny of man, the essential oneness of the race and its inseverable union with God, and marked by the event which gives name to this poem. Sprung from Him who taught us to say "Our Father" and "Our Brother," it has in this age burst into more glorious bloom, rich with promise of abundant fruit.

It is fitting, therefore, that we who behold with wonder the flowering of this world-embracing truth should recall with gratitude the planting of the precious seed, in the dawn of our country's history, by one through whose labors and fostering care it here first in the history of the world took on the form of organized life.

Closely identified with the great religious movements of the close of the eighteenth century, broken-hearted by his excommunication from the church and by domestic affliction, John Murray fled from England in the year 1770, that he might bury his grief in the wilderness of the New World. Driven by stress of weather upon the Jersey coast, near the little hamlet known as Good Luck, he was astounded at the warm welcome of Thomas Potter, who, with his own

hands, had built him a meeting-house and was waiting for "the preacher whom God would send."

How this fisherman-farmer, this heroic man of faith, arrested the flight of the fugitive, insisting that he deliver the message intrusted to him, and what came of it, is quaintly told in John Murray's autobiography.

However strange, to our way of thinking, and even fanciful may seem his theology, one cannot fail to be inspired by the majesty of his vision of humanity united and complete;—magnificent apocalypse!—his attempt to express in finite terms the infinite grandeur and tenderness of Redeeming Love.

The sudden metamorphosis at Good Luck of a discouraged man, fleeing from his past and his kind, into a heroic and unswerving apostle of the World-Saviour; who feared neither tribulation nor the face of man; who, unaided and alone, traversed the Colonies from city to city, from hamlet to hamlet, back and forth from Maryland to New Hampshire, through storm and cold, on horseback and afloat, without money

in his purse, excepting as the Lord in whom he trusted raised up friends to help him on his way; refusing all offers of a settled home for ten long years; witnessing to both small and great in crowded assemblies, by the hearth and by the campfires of the Revolution—it was this mighty change which constituted the wonder and the glory of John Murray's life.

The romantic story has long appealed to many hearts on account of its simple beauty, its human interest, and its epic significance.

Trodden under foot of men, born of desolation, a flower of Paradise is cradled amid snow and ice. Anon the arbut wakes, each lovely petal radiant with joy. Breathing upon the winds of heaven: LOVE NEVER FAILETH, the wondrous flower is pushing back the winter gloom and filling the earth with its fragrance.

H. N. D.





PRELUDE

*Who hath haste let him pass on—perchance he
questeth dross,
To find, when he the goal hath won, but emptiness
and loss.*

*For such my numbers and my rime are naught.
For him my song
Who dreameth dreams of bygone time, of spirits
pure and strong;*

*Who dreameth dreams of golden Day beyond the
verge of Night,
When man shall tread a fairer way, rejoicing in
the light;*

*When man, of royal pedigree, his birthright shall
attain;
When Man—stupendous mystery!—with God
enthroned shall reign.*

*Eager, my harp, thy pulses leap, urged by the
mighty theme;
With flowing chords the rapture sweep adown the
rushing stream!*

*The ages vast thy bosom thrill, along thy strings
they gleam;
Sing: Love Divine to man goodwill!—the burden of
my dream.*

*Thy tuneful strings in full accord the burden oft
repeat;
Sing: Love, and Love alone is Lord, and hail His
glowing feet!*





VENI, DOMINE JESU

THOU that sowest world-wide harvest, Reaper
of Nations—

Life from death, light from darkness, and love
from hatred—

Mighty World-Saviour, summon this people
unto Thy sowing!

Sons of heroic ancestry, heirs of an heritage
peerless,

Heirs of Love's wider evangel, whose joy the
Church is awakening;

Heirs of light whose glory is filling the earth and
heavens,

Help us to shake off the lethargy that in long
slumber hath bound us;

Help us to gird our loins to serve Thee, as once
did the Fathers

Whose high faith I celebrate, as Thou in old
time didst lead them!

Thou who in darkness showed to Thy servants
foregleams of dayspring,

Show me the noontide of glory oncoming—show
me Thy fulness!

May I be not disobedient unto the heavenly
vision;

Give me the voice of a silver trumpet, attuned
to Thy sweetness;

Breathe on mine eyelids, breathe on my dream-
ing, gracious World-Saviour!





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Book One

“ To view God as our Father, and all mankind as our brethren, and to believe our everlasting Father will never act inconsistent with this endearing character, . . . to trust in God at all times, not being afraid; to come up from this wilderness leaning on the Belovéd—in one word, to cast all our care upon Him, for ourselves and for others, for time and for eternity, is to glorify God in our spirit.”

“ Is it not pleasant to walk in the light, to be delivered from fear, to behold the Creator of your frame, the Redeemer of your spirit, as a tender, kind, compassionate Father; to be able to look death in the face with composure, to have the heart fixed, constantly trusting in God?”

“ He who said to the evil spirit, *Come out of him*, in one instance, can, with as much ease and equal success, separate the evil spirit from every individual of the human family; *and what He can do, He will do.*”

“ O, boundless theme! O, unfathomable depth! O, glorious day.”

JOHN MURRAY



"To view God as my Father, and all mankind as our brethren, and to follow our ever-loving Father will never act incommensurate with this exalting character, . . . to trust in God at all times, and being able to come up from this wilderness landing on the Redeemer—in one word, to say to our God and His Redeemer and for others, for this land and country, is to glorify God in our spirit."

"Is it not, indeed, to say, in the light, to be delivered from fear, to behold the Creator of your frame, the Sustainer of your life, the Father, Lord, compassionate Father, to be able to say, in our face with confidence, to give our heart back, completely trusting in Him?"

John Murray

"The evil will be the evil spirit, comes out of him, in one instant, even with as much ease and equal success, separates the evil spirit from every individual of the human family, and what life can be, the good do."

"O, boundless Power! O, unfathomable depth! O, glorious day."

John Murray





John Murray's Landfall

A ROMANCE AND A FOREGLEAM

AGE-LONG the billows roll their tides o'er
tempestuous ocean:

So in the life of the world still flow the tides of
the Spirit,

Unto the dim-seen goal of destiny surging
majestic,

Moving the restless heart of man with infinite
longing.

When in myriad souls is heard the mysterious
whisper,

Soft swells the tide, more deep, more vast, till
the sea in commotion

Hurls its might resistless, from zone to zone
on-sweeping—

Mighty pulsation of impulse flowing from God
to His children.

Borne on the towering crest, some leader of
men for a moment

Guides the advancing flood. Anon he is gone,
and another

Rises from infinite depths, unfathomed abysses
of ocean.

Out of the strife and the turmoil, oppression and
murk of the glooming;

Out of the chaos and darkness of long mediæval
confusion,

Out of the waters seething with flotsam of glory
departed—

Civilization awaiting rebirth from the womb
of the ages—

Uprose the cry of Freedom; humanity bruised
and despairing;

Rome's red hand on the spirit of man had
welded her fetters.

Muttered thunders of Wittenberg; far gleamed
the lightnings of Leyden—

Rose John Calvin with voice of command
Jehovah proclaiming

Ruler of men and nations, of all things Author,
Disposer;

Unto the Lord of Hosts demanding allegiance
from all men.

Vast the response! From the shores of Geneva
the Alps heard the challenge,

Clear from their fastnesses echoed, exulting,
their anthem of freedom

Unto the waking Lowlands; nerving the Hugue-
not exile;

Puritan England arousing to shake off the grip
of the Stuart—

Tyranny hateful in Church, in State by her
yeomanry smitten.

Buffeted long on tempestuous seas fled west-
ward the Pilgrim,

Wrote the immortal compact, sealed in the May-
flower's cabin,

Whereon rest our liberties, world's hope, rule
of the people—

Planted precious seed in the fertile soil of the
New World.

Woke there from sleep to larger vision the mind
of the people,

Stunted, starved so long in the prison-house
where it had languished.

*They sing unto Jehovah, to whom all glory be,
Whose chariot is the tempest, whose triumph-way
the sea.*

*In Him alone confiding, they face with courage
high*

The elemental fury engulfing sea and sky.

*The Lord of Hosts their Keeper, what peril may
they fear*

*Of sudden foe or tempest or phantom lurking near?
Lost in the unknown vastness, through storm and
mystery*

Their valiant keel is flying in quest of Liberty:

These waged a valiant warfare, and we inherit
their labors—

Tyrants enthroned they defied; deposed they
the ghostly oppressor;

Freedom they gave to manhood, by privilege
long imprisoned,

But, as if tear-dimmed eyes to shield from
glory too dazzling,

Crowned they on Heaven's exalted throne a
Despot Almighty,

Who, that His pitiless counsel might stand, for
His pleasure and glory,

Hosts untold would consign to unspeakable
anguish of burning,

Reprobate by His decree before they were ever
created;

Prey of the worm, of remorse undying through
infinite cycles;

Hope engulfed in ruin, nor goal for their long-
ing, no respite;

Blackness of night eternal, naught after, no
to-morrow;

Never one gleam of dawn athwart the abyss of
their torment!

(Jealous the Fateful Sisters glower askance on
Jehovah!)

Ah, how many a heart hath this cruel phantom
affrighted!

Yet from the clouds and darkness gleamed
forth resplendent the sun's rays:

Chance fled amain from the face of the Lord, the
Omnipotent Ruler;

Strength sat supreme on the throne of the
universe, sovereign of all things.

Then was made known what a wonder of love!
For whereso Jehovah

Looked on a soul elect by His sovereign decree
to glory—

Plucked from the holocaust frightful aflame
with His fierce anger—

Naught in life or in death, not all the powers of
darkness

Might by a hair's breadth that blessed one
swerve from the free gift predestined—

Love unconditioned his high birthright, though
myriads were passed by!

O Heart of Man, how couldst thou conceive twin
demon and angel?

How from one Fount could flow these waters so
sweet and so bitter?

So unfolds in gloom the marvellous night-
blooming cactus;

So from corruption and darkness the lily her
petals upraises;

So from her wild thorn-tangle the rose breathes
ravishing fragrance!

.

Changeful the heavens. While storm-clouds
loomed on the murky horizon,

Down streamed the rifted zenith with silent
splendor of sunlight.

But, as swelling seas fore-run a new tide fast
on-rolling,

Storm-cloud and marvellous sunburst of glory in
fitful succession,

Sweep o'er the ocean vast, flying shadow and
gleam intermingled.

On bears the mighty stream with infinite
passion thrilling,

As on the waking waters descends the breath of
the Spirit;
Travail of doubt, suspense and pain of destiny
thwarted;
As if the dead of a thousand years, disturbed
in their long sleep
Moved from abysmal rest among mourning
tangles of sea-growth,
Moved by the currents of ocean, up-borne to
life had risen—
Voices celestial contending for man with demons
infernial.

Vanished the dream of the Commonwealth,
vanished the armies of Cromwell;
Dead was the life of the Church, grown gross
and fat on the people;
Husks in place of bread she offered to men who
were starving!
Dead the things of the Spirit, buried in form
and in dogma;
Hushed the voices of praise, the liturgy tedious
droning;

Puritan freedom rejected, terrors of Puritan
cherished;
Low ebbed the tide in Anglican waters, when
out of the unknown—
Voices of Oxford and Epworth the winds of
heaven wide wafting—
Out of the infinite deep John Wesley, in might
ascended;
Rose on the crest of the mounting tide the
masterful leader;
Shaking the sleep of the Church with the clarion
voice of the prophet,
Rousing dead souls to wake, to live for things
of the Spirit.

Bones of the dead heard his masterful summons,
and fellow to fellow
Came they, part to part, as garments of flesh
clothed their waking!
Fair on the gloom of the world shone forth the
Brotherhood vision,
Heart unto heart close binding, the burst of song
sweeping heavenward,

As when bird-carols awake the fields from the
sleep of winter.

*Spirit moving on the deep,
Wake, ah, wake my soul from sleep!
Melt my winter; Thy warm glow
Bid springtime fragrance round me flow!*

*Spirit of man, rejoice, rejoice!
Through mart and way a gentle Voice
Is calling, calling. Dost not hear
The Friend of Sinners drawing near?*

*Hope, like a bird on heavenward song,
Rises where Night has brooded long;
Floods the glad morn with joyous lay—
Sweet herald of immortal Day!*

Over the land flow streams of refreshing from
Heavenly fountains—
Drink for the thirsty soul, for the perishing life-
giving water.
Hope to all the world extends the Lord's
invitation,

Hope that would open wide the door for the
many to enter—

Hearts of men in revolt at last against Night's
black invention—

Hope with Fear alternate, yet tenderly offering
comfort

Unto hearts long crushed under Hell's condign
reprobation

(Hate masquerading as Logic with Love his
bewildered partner).

Nearer Jehovah draws, with the lowly making
His dwelling;

Open more wide the Arms of Calvary, yearning
for all men;

Wider the Cross throws its light. But ever
loom in the distance

Muttering clouds whose night and gloom flash
threatenings and lightning.

Heart of Man, Heart of Man, ever aspiring,
ever out-reaching,

Shadows thou hatest, Day is thy birthright,
Hope springs immortal!

So sweet April breaks from her prison, and
casts off her fetters,
Melted to tears by the fervor of sunlight that
greeted her waking;
Joy of new being, rainbow and shower, smiles
amid weeping;
Herald of gladness, of glory of summer, and
fruitage of autumn.

.

While the vast world of waters is seething with
tidal commotion,
Silent flows a shoreless stream through the
ocean's vastness,
Born where majestic Amazon's equatorial ardor
Meets the implacable tidal wrath of jealous
Atlantic—
Soul of a thousand leagues of sun-kissed tropical
splendor;
Inexhaustible wealth of immemorial forests,
Garlands of verdure perpetual draping the
mighty river;
Network of interlaced waterways weaving a
royal garment,

Robing in raiment of silver a continent's virgin
bosom;
Life, exuberant life, rejoicing, o'erflowing the
sun's realm,
Graced by the lordly palm, with the fairy orchid
bejewelled.

On through mysterious depths of all-encom-
passing ocean,
Urged by the constant winds that blow from
Orient's dreaming,
Under-sea waters from either pole married and
flowing
Westward urge the current, as sunward the
ponderous earth rolls.
Silent the sea-river takes its way through
Caribbean waters
Instinct with life, whose billows flash soft-
phosphorescent,
Lit by the gleam of the Southern Cross and the
splendor of Argo;
Warmed on the sea-robed bosom of Earth are
the star-jewelled billows

Under whose sea-caves glow subterranean tor-
rents fierce flaming,
Pelée terrific with lightnings, seaward hurling
his thunder.
On flow the fertile waters, laving the glowing
Antilles,
Teeming the myriad shapes of life that crowd
the full seaway,
Scaly tribes of hue resplendent, coral, gor-
gona;
Forth from its native seas to the Gulf, as unto
its cradle,
Pausing where the fierce Cortez trampled on
pale Montezuma,
Onward swirls the stream, the Mississippi salut-
ing;
Breath of Tortugas, spell of the Everglade,
breath of Bahamas
Borne to sea-girt Bermudas, to pine-clad
Carolinas;
Kissing the rock-ribbed hills, New England's
austerity wooing,
Life imparting, forever rejoicing, the flood
presses northward

Unto the conflict with night, with cold, with
ice-floe and iceberg.

Nor ever sailed from Arctic fastness so hostile a
squadron

But at the touch of this gentle river vanished
forever

Icy hull and glittering spar, all silently sinking.

As to the rigorous, ice-vexed North the Gulf
Stream bringeth

Joy of a sunnier zone, to sombre shores glad
verdure,

So hath a gentle influence flowed from the days
of John Murray,

Heralding Love's new evangel, the Heavenly
vision declaring;

Melting pitiless dogma with long antiquity
hoary;

Giving to Brotherhood wider meaning, Manhood
exalting.

Man of essence divine, of Love Almighty the
offspring;

Love, gracious Source of all being, Source and
Goal of creation;

Love Supreme, sure Sovereign of Sin, of Sorrow,
of Tumult;
Light the Lord of the universe, Shadow servant
of Sunlight!
Small and feeble the rivulet's birth, of blind eyes
unnoticed;
Small indeed flowed the rivulet, fed by the
tears of Love's Herald;
Tears of brave souls that saw with rapture the
heartening vision.

Long the noble procession, and sacred the roll
of the Fathers,
Sedulous guarding light that had flickered
adown the dark ages.
Braved they undaunted the wrath of man to
publish good tidings;
Bowed they to no Pretender, to no irresponsible
Weakling,
But (even as through a mist, and perhaps in
outline only),
Saw they Almighty Love, the Infinite life-
giving Father,

Bowed they to One whose sure Hand each sin-
fullest soul was leading
Unto a noble heritage, foreordained e'er the
world was.

*Spirits touched with morning-glow on-coming, seen
afar,
Undaunted by the gloom and woe slow fading,
star by star,
They sing the Father and His child—ah, none
the twain may part!
Nor stealthy foe, nor tempest wild His own tear
from His heart.*

*They sing of One whose rescuing feet unwearied
aye shall be,
Till He behold His flocks complete for Love's high
destiny.
They sing the bond which none may break, immut-
able and strong,
The birthright naught from man may take—my
harp, lift up thy song!*

Not from the zenith only, not intermingled with
storm-cloud,
Saw they the Light Ineffable filling the uttermost
heavens,
Light whose glory in this new era the world is
rejoicing;
Light in whose growing effulgence appears a new
Earth, a new Heaven.
Hail, ye heroes of Truth, in whose faithful and
dauntless keeping
Quenchless the sacred fire should glow till these
times of refreshing!

Slow grew the stream with years; and now a
masterful river,
Pours its beneficent course, on-bringing Time's
dream in its fulness—
Warmth of love 'gainst cold legalism, Greek
thought against Roman.
Many and precious the fruitful seeds that have
drifted to far lands,
Borne on this river's bosom, borne to mankind
from the sun's realm.

What rare wonders of beauty and fragrance shall
burst on the future,
He shall reveal who bade us consider the grace
of the lily—
Lord and Brother of every soul, Humanity's
Flower.

Pour thy floods, mighty River of Life, in majesty
roll on,
Melt from our limbs each galling fetter; cast
down old oppression;
Sweep proudly on through Love's domain, treasure-laden for all men;
Warming, transfusing, hope's dream enlarging
to faith's clearer vision;
Flow through the storm-vexed ocean, unto the
uttermost island,
Yea, till the floods clap their hands, proclaiming
the joy of the waters!

.

Ye who have watched with awe the resistless
tides of the Spirit

Flooding this bourne of hope with Love's
inexhaustible ocean;
Sweeping to vast oblivion the fleeing phantoms
of terror
Which have enslaved mankind from immemorial
ages,
Hiding the Father's face from the blinded eyes
of His children,
Take ye heart who gaze on the billows now
sunward rolling;
List while I sing how the Spirit moulded the
heart of John Murray;
Hear, too, the simple tale of a lowly heart and
its yearning;
List while I sing the answer vouchsafed a lone
watcher for dayspring.





LO, as I mused on the ways of the Spirit, my
soul was transported
Back to days of eld, in the flower-wreathed
island of Erin
Where, 'mid wealth of sweet verdure, thrush,
cuckoo, and blackbird are singing;
Soft airs of summer rejoicing the woodland,
hillside, and valley.
Bowered in odorous fruit trees and oaks, an ivy-
grown mansion
Dreamed in stately repose of the grace of years
departed;
While, hard by, from the moss-walled garden,
fragrance and bird-song
Woody with subtle spell the zephyrs that hovered
around it;
Breathed a delicious balm on the soul of the
wayfaring stranger.

As long I mused—of the present unmindful,
 apart from the turmoil—
Stood by my knee a lad of ten summers, wistful
 gazing
Into my face with eyes of soft azure, in question-
 ing wonder.
Quaint was the garb, demure the demeanor and
 speech of the youngster,
As 't were an agèd man returned to the days
 of his boyhood.
Yet in his eye there sparkled a gleam of boyish
 mischief.

“Tell me, I pray thee, my lad,” quoth I, “of
 thyself and thy story.
Why this look of sadness, where all things
 around us are smiling?”
Then, scarce I know whether waking or dream-
 ing, in fragments he uttered
Yearnings his child-heart was pondering, mingled
 with premature sorrow.
And, as the way is in Dreamland, the boy,
 while his narrative lengthened,

Grew to manhood's estate; and thus the story
proceeded—

Murmured, half dreaming, half waking, anon
with himself as 't were musing:

Good sir, I know not what did draw
Me unto thee, but when I saw
Thee coming slowly down the way
I could not help but leave my play
And go to meet thee, for it seemed
Thou too hadst dreamed
Of birds and flowers and sunshine sweet—
And so I ran my friend to meet;
But when I saw thy smiling face
I was sure thou wast no "Object of Grace";
Because, thou must know, 't is the way with us
here:

The more religious the more severe.
Mayhap thy home's in some far-distant land,
And the ways of our people dost not understand!

My name? John Murray. Father said
I raised my head,

On being "received" in Church, and when
The prayers were over, stoutly cried: Amen!
The priest nigh dropped me on the floor,
For ne'er had I lisped a word before.
A lusty babe! With great ado
Was mirth scarce hushed, from pew to pew.
I'd been baptized, you know, in haste,
When ill, lest, dying, I perdition taste.
Is n't it *terrible* to think
We're always walking on the brink!

I do so love a boyish prank!—
A merry laugh, a joyous song—
Think'st thou not there's something wrong
When springtide lowers dark and dank?

Often they call me a "frivolous lad,"
But it seems to me our home's pretty sad
For a boy that longs to be cheery and glad.
Over our house broods a cloud of fear,
As lurked some dreadful danger near;
Father and Mother and children all
Tremble because of Adam's fall.

Hast thou not heard that we 're fatally wrecked,
If our names are not written among "the elect"?

When by my bed I kneel at night
My heart stands still with a deadly fright,
And I shrink as from the touch of Death,
For my cheek is damp with Satan's breath,
Who, kneeling beside me, in my ear
Whispers, striking me dumb with fear,
Terrors that mortal may not hear.

When the wild wind moans,
Trembling at the groans
Of the wretched souls God has passed by;
Utterly spent
With the sad lament,
I shudder at the ghostly tread,
And fall asleep crying
At thought of dying,
Hiding my head
In the depths of the bed.

Oft I wake in the still of night,
Startled from sleep and chill with fear;

But the moon smiles calm, her soothing light
Filling the night-watch with delight;
The stars look down and shame my fright,
And the soft winds breathe so sweet and pure
I fall asleep again secure.

Oft from sorrow I steal away,
In Grandmother's garden yonder to play.

*My grandmother's garden is fair to see,
With rose and lily and hedge of may;
Soft-blowing trumpets of coral woodbine
That murmur strange sea lore to loved eglantine;
Foxglove, iris, and tulip gay,
Violet's breath and forget-me-not;
Bluebells ringing their merry chime,
Herb and simple, red bergamot,
Aroma of mint, of rue, of thyme,
And lilac so sweet! There the droning bee
Gossips and garners from flower to flower,
From garden gate to clematis bower,
While the summer breezes gently rock
Stately rows of hollyhock.*

*Thither a child-heart's grief I carry ;
There long hours I dreaming tarry ;
There love's labor makes me whole ;
Comfort there flows into my soul.*

*Little flowers, I love you and bring you my
tears.*

*You have no fears;
But it seems to me
You are as happy as happy can be.
Your faces fresh with morning dew,
So sweet, so innocent, so true,
Look up to the glad sun,
As if you knew him one
That you could surely, surely trust;
As if he loved you well; as if you all loved him.
Each little cup
That you hold proudly up
With never a trace of fear,
He fills e'en to the brim
With sunlight and with cheer.
But I, alas, I weep; how oft I must!
If some stray tears let fall
Into your cup their gall,*

I hope you will forgive—

Without your love I 'm sure I could not live!

I often, often cry,
When smiles the gentle sky,
For fear it is my fate
To be a "reprobate";
For Father says that I
May forever, ever die,
And he never spares the rod,
Lest I should not love my God,
Lest I should chance to be a reprobate.

Oh, how I hate, oh, how I hate
Those dreadful, dreadful words,
When I long to hear the birds
And fly to you for cheer!
You always know my fear,
Though you so peaceful seem—
Your life a pleasant dream!

But what could you expect
Of a boy who's "non-elect"?

I 've only lived ten years,
But my eyes are wet with tears
And my heart is filled with fears.

The Sabbath 's a day of dreadful gloom,
I am shut in my silent room;
Irksome and long the tedious hours
In the tight-shuttered house, away from the
flowers—

For you know it's a sin in the garden to
walk,

Or of sunshine or anything joyful to talk.
Solemn and slow I 'm led to the meeting,
With never a smile or friendly greeting;
With eyes fixed straight upon my path,
Lest I bring down my father's wrath;
Sermon filled with fierce damnation;
Fearful strivings for salvation;
The afternoon 't is all repeated,
Hard on the wearisome benches seated;
Evening brings long watchings weary,
Exhortations harsh and dreary;
The faults of the day are then revised,
And I—as example—am well chastised;

And then I 'm often fervently told—
Ah, how it makes my blood run cold!—
If I walk in the straight and narrow way,
I may spend an eternal Sabbath day!

I love the gatherings in the street
Where the singers carol soft and sweet;
Then it seems as if I too were glad—
Dear flowers, do you think I 'm very, very
bad?

In the lovely sky smiles your father, the sun;
But I am "non-elect," Heavenly Father I have
none;
And I dare not "blaspheme" His very holy
name
By making so "presumptuous" a claim.

Oh, might I only be a thing of joy—
A wild bird, flying light and free,
A swift fish glancing through the sea,
A hound, a hare, rejoicing to run,
A flower lightly laughing to the sun—
Anything else in the world but a "reprobate"
boy!

The flowers, for answer, breathed their incense
sweet;

It rose on sunbeams to Love's mercy seat;
It woke once more within the trembling boy
The ever-springing fount of childish joy.

.

So did the shadow of Calvin blight the young
life of John Murray—

Shadow appalling, terrific, but only a shadow;
the night-wrack

Borne on a mighty flood of blessing that swept
o'er the nations.

Ever I loved the songs in the street,
Swelling in simple cadence pure and sweet,
As if my joyous garden flowers were singing;
As if the song of happy birds were ringing:

*"Love is calling, Love is calling,
Love is calling thee;
Love is calling, Love is calling:
'Sinner, come to me!'"*

*"Love is calling, Love is calling,
Do not turn away:
Love is calling, Love is calling:
'Come while it is day!'*

*"Love is calling, Love is calling,
Harden not thy heart;
Love is calling, Love is calling:
'Now choose the better part!'"*

There in the midst the form of Wesley rose;
A prophet of the people, touched with fire,
Who could the coldest heart with zeal inspire;
Whose might could multitudes around him draw,
And by the magic of his spirit thaw
To love the scorn and hatred of his foes,
Knitting all souls with bonds of sweet accord,
Thrilled by the presence of the Living Lord.

*"Come, sinner, come and learn to pray,
Come, learn to pray, come, learn to pray!
Within the fold there's rest for thee,
For long hast thou fared the way,
Foot-sore and spent with misery.*

*“ Within the fold shalt thou find peace,
Thou shalt find peace, thou shalt find peace;
Thy weariness shall find repose,
The Shepherd give thy toil release,
And pour His balm upon thy woes.*

*“ Within the fold there is room for all,
There 's room for all, there 's room for all;
Come while the door is open wide!
For thee I hear the Shepherd call—
'O haste thee, sinner, to His side!'"*

Where surged the crowds there sang the singers
sweet,

Inviting all in the Redeemer's name:
The young, the old, the strong, the halt, the lame,
The haughty peer, the woman bowed with
shame.

I saw the hardened sinner trembling come,
The bold blasphemer, tearful, stricken dumb;
The heedless throng arrested in the street,
Swayed by the preacher, fell at Jesus' feet.

We children felt the lifting of the gloom;
In songs of joy forgot impending doom;

Hope, seeking all, descended from the Cross,
And silenced threatenings of predestined loss.
Swift ran the tidings through the country-side;
The people flocked to hear from far and wide;
Rejoicing carols rose along the way,
And wider grew the excitement day by day;
The Lord no more as Sovereign sat apart,
But walked with men at home and in the mart.

.

My father, erst so stern, did follow Wesley,
Who called him saint, but for his Calvinism,
Which he called damnable. Me too he loved—
This mighty leader—and my heart took fire.
A man imperious of command was he,
Whose followers loved and feared him as a god.
Unwearied in the saddle, far and near,
Rode he through all the kingdom, marshalling
The newly wakened hosts to follow him.
A husbandman he sowed beside all waters,
Sedulous casting precious grain afar,
Where now, full-eared, the whitening fields bow
low:
Lord of the Harvest, see, an hundred-fold
Unto Thy garner now the seed returns!

My young heart, which had been long time
distraught,
Lest I were doomed to be a reprobate,
Yielded to song of those melodious bands
That unto Ireland's soul had brought glad up-
lift,
Grasped at the invitation and did find
Assurance of acceptance. Loud then sang
My heart for joy; for me the palms of peace
Waved fronds of welcome.

Then the great man chose
Me, still of tender years, grown strong in grace,
Making me leader of a class of youths
Two-score in number, boy-companions all,
Whose hearts I soon enkindled with my zeal,
Whose lives I drew about me. Ere the sun
Had waked the dawn, and at his journey's close,
Our souls held converse sweet from day to day,
Vocal with song and prayer and admonition,
Till all felt well assured that they were rescued
From the impending doom that shadowed all.
I was entranced with draughts of Love Divine,
Where I was early taught to look for vengeance.

Visions of Love inviting all mankind,
Vague but majestic, ravished my young soul.
The morning cloud of terror backward rolled.

But, oh, the weakness of the human heart!
Where fear had dwelt grew now rank self-
 complaisance.

Love had me chosen; what was it to me
That others might not to my joy attain?
I was beloved, my love was fully answered;
Does the fond lover vex his ravished soul
Because, forsooth, his joy all may not share!

Wearied at length by this high exaltation,
Reaction cooled my boyish followers,
Bringing dissension in its train. My soul,
With joy and disappointment overwrought,
Plunged heavily down the glooms into black
 night.

This did but add unto my sanctity;
I was the more admired—a rising light!
Did not one tell me he would liever dwell
With thousand demons than ten laughing men?
Did not the Wesleyans say 't was damnable
Error to claim election before faith

Had wrought its work, yet, where such evident
 Favor divine shone as adorned my life,
 There could no doubt remain of my election?
 So 'twixt Arminian and Calvinist
 On the full tide of favor was I borne
 Into the Kingdom, lauded and caressed!

But in my heart a sickening doubt had risen
 As to the *very day* of my new birth—
 So, for my years too curious, did I pry
 Into the deep recesses of my spirit,
 Warped by the ceaseless warfare of the preachers.
 Was 't marvellous that pride should grow apace
 In me, the darling of both warring factions!

.

Suddenly came a summons to appear,
 By the command of our most reverend bishop,
 Before the parish priest, there to prepare
 For confirmation, ere his Lordship come.
 A man of earthly vision was our rector,
 Drawn by the loaves and fishes. His small soul
 Detested this new fervor in the air
 And, as he warned us not to be entrapped
 By the fantastic ravings of the wild

Enthusiasts who filled the land with clamor—
“Presumptuous! Adding unto things appointed;
Insulting Heaven with sacrilegious songs!”—
Anent the operation of the Spirit
Brooding upon the soul, he bade us know
That by our baptism we were members made
Of Christ, and of the Heavenly Kingdom heirs.
Humbly I asked: “And did I, Sir, receive
In baptism all of the advantages?”

Frowning he answered: “Yea, undoubtedly.”
“Then, Sir, what lack I more, and why prepare
For confirmation?” “Hush, impertinence!”
He cried in anger. “Sir, I do but ask
For information, I would be instructed.”
“Nay, but for insolence thou comest; thou
Wouldst see thy patron Wesley in my pulpit!
Thou hast no business here; I warn thee hence!”
“Sir, I conceive that I *have* business here,
By order of my bishop. When we last
Did meet thou saidst it were not possible
To *feel* the workings of the Holy Spirit;
Yet, Sir, the Church's Articles do speak
Of Special comfort to all godly men

Who in themselves do *feel* the Spirit's workings."
 "Thou art not with these Articles concerned,
 And if thou cease not thine impertinence,
 I shall command the clerk to put thee hence!"
 "Command me, Sir," I said, "and I will go."

Naught said he more until again we met.
 Then poured he forth his wrath upon my head
 In biting sarcasm. I was sore abashed.
 In deep confusion in my hat I hid
 My face suffused with shame. Wrathful he
 then

Bade me depart, for none might desecrate
 That holy fane with laughter. I withdrew
 In dire confusion. But as he came out
 I humbly begged for pardon; he had done
 Me wrong; too deeply did I venerate
 The time and place for mirth, but I was grieved
 That he denied the Spirit's present power.

"Didst thou not say, when thou, Sir, wast
 ordained,

That thou didst *feel* the moving of the Spirit,
 Drawing thee to the teacher's sacred office?"

"Silence, insufferable ignorance!

Of these things know'st thou naught!" They
that stood by
Smiled at my triumph, as the priest strode forth.

.
As I was passing on the street one said:
Dost thou not know his Lordship's at the
church,
This very moment laying on his hands?
Instantly I ran thither with all haste,
Vexed that my priest had thought to pass me
by.

I entered, and a hush fell on my soul.
Haloed with dim light mystical that streamed
Through glowing windows soft with rainbow-
dreams—

Angels, triumphant and enraptured saint,
Limned all-glorious as the gates of morn—
Sat the good bishop on his oaken throne
Hard by the altar, vested in flowing robes.
Upon his right, with crozier rich in gold,
His chaplain stood; upon his left my priest.

Softly advancing to the chancel knelt I
At end of the circling class of candidates.

Stooping, the priest unto his Lordship spake
In whispered tones. The bishop answered low:
“’T is of no moment, if they understand.”

Dark glowered the priest, for he would fain
exclude

The followers of Wesley. Sternly then
Questioned the prelate, as he turned to me.

“What business hast thou here?” “My Lord,”
said I,

“My sponsors at my baptism did renounce
The Devil and his works and all the pomp,
The vanity and lusts of sinful flesh;
Promising to prepare me for this day,
And for thy blessing to present me here.

These failing to make good their promises,
I, by your Lordship’s leave, present myself.”
“Know’st thou the meaning of this ordi-
nance?”

“I do conceive, my Lord, the promises
Made by my sponsors cannot be fulfilled
Save by the operation of the Spirit,
Moving my heart to seek this means of Grace.”

“Hast thou partaken of the Eucharist?”

“Yea, my Lord, trembling first, but did receive,

Communing oft, such consolation vast
That never have I since absented me."

Softening his voice, the agèd bishop said:
"Son, thou art right," and, laying on his hands,
Gave me his blessing, while I knelt before
him.

Then with a glance he smote the unfaithful
priest,
Covering him with confusion. All my friends
Rejoiced; among them my proud father. Soft,
Rose in clear, solemn tones, as sang the choir:
Veni Creator Spiritus.

.
Wheel within wheel, Chapel and Church. By
wayside and hamlet
Sounded the voice, the spontaneous outburst of
heart-felt devotion,
Rending the rigid bonds of liturgy, longing for
new life.

So from the root darkly dormant, the joyous
sapling uprises

Till, from the parent-root parting, it towers a
lord of the forest.

Well may the Anglican mourn the blindness that
cast out the singers!

As from all flowers, the poison rejecting, the bee
garners honey,

Murray in Calvin found love unconditioned,
love for the Chosen,

But for the Many darkness and terror, hopeless,
eternal.

Wider love found he in Wesley, hope-laden the
free invitation

Unto the multitude, waking with longing of
hunger unsated;

And his young spirit made eager response to
the joy of the singers.

Beauty the Church offered; and his soul seized
it, of beauty enamoured,

Beauty of tint and form, of tone; yet apples of
Sodom

But for the grace of souls like the bishop—rare
souls of pure vision.

My father dead, my widowed mother poor,
Our powerful neighbor haled me to the court,
As witness in the suit that he would bring
Against the tenant of our ancestral home.
For he whose fraud had got him the estate
Would use me as his tool. When called, I rose
And with full circumstance unto the Court
Unfolded the dark tale. Then, hot with scorn,
Pointing defiance at the villain, cried:
“Justice, my Lord! for justice at your hands
I fain would plead. The plaintiff in this case
Should be defendant made. Unto this land,
These various estates which he doth hold,
He hath no proper title. Spurious deeds,
As I have shown, do bar my widowed mother,
Her and her children from their heritage.
Him who hath called me as his witness I
Denounce unto your Honor as usurper!
Justice, my Lord! I ask that these estates
Revert again unto my family,
Restoring us to former opulence.”

So did I plead, when but a callow youth,
Against the tyrant of the country-side.

Then yielding to my eloquence the Court
Decreed me justice, and my cause prevailed,
To me and to my kin our lands restoring.

.

Vaster injustice in years to follow that voice
was denouncing;
Fearless defying the man-made fetters of
ghostly oppression;
Birthright divine for all men claiming, dead
spirits awakening.
Wide, ever wider, lo, human brotherhood reigns
now triumphant,
Where of that voice long echoes, far-wafted,
empires are shaking!

.

Soon we were dwelling in our new abode,
In the ancient halls reclining, drinking joy
Of fair ancestral gardens—life ran smooth.
Fast grew our circle; many the friendly feet
That crossed our threshold; groaned the
generous board.
Soon hospitality and public weal

Led us away from thought for our affairs,
Narrowing our resources.

Among all
Our neighbors loved we best an aged man
Whose sons Death's hand had snatched;
 one was my friend
Whom I had dearly loved. This sonless
 man,
Of large wealth master, set his love on me,
And would that I might be his foster-son,
To comfort his last years, to give him aid
In his affairs. He and his gray-haired wife
Did urge my mother, saying I should be
A brother to his daughters. For my sake
His plea prevailed, and I became a son
Unto his house, whose love did welcome me,
Knitting our households twain in closer
 bonds.

Bright shone those halcyon days, the weeks,
 the months,
Whose blessing rested lightly on my head,
Until 't was noised abroad I should be made
The adopted son of all his opulence.

Then flickered Hatred's envious tongue at
me—

For the old man had passed his kindred by.

My foster-parents bade me give no ear
To calumny, but with them bide in peace,
Nor ever stray from their encircling love:
"Stay with us, boy," my foster-father cried,
"The evenings lag when thou art gone
abroad.

Thou art our stay and comfort, and thy
voice

Gladdens our mournful hearts, grieving for
him

Whom Death has claimed. Nay, leave us
not, my son!

Thy mother grieveth with me and thy
sisters,

Whene'er we miss thee from the fireside
glow,

For we would have thee read to us, would
hear

Thy loved voice lead us in discourse and
prayer."

Yet irksome waxed the days, to duty
pledged.

I longed to meet my classmates of old time
In pious gatherings, gladsome with sweet
song.

But whenso from the home I absented me,
A pall of gloom fell on the hearthstone's
glow.

Being once invited by a guest of the house—
A minister, new-frocked, a man of parts—
I took my journey with him; I would hear
Him speak. We entered where a multitude
Waited a preacher. Arm in arm we went
Into the pulpit. Suddenly he turned
Me toward the congregation—and with-
drew!

I was ensnared; retreat was none. Then,
lo!

My mouth was opened; I began to preach.

I was delighted. Oh the new-found joy,
Out-pouring my freed soul upon the sea
Of faces up-turned, hanging on my word!

I was a new-fledged bird whose wings,
untried,
Had, unexpected, borne him on the air!

Keen grew my appetite. On my return,
Whereso I went I spake unto the people;
A new-found hero of the neighborhood.
Came local fame to me, and household
sorrow.

For my young heart did crave a larger
field,
And ever in mine ears whispered the
voice
Of the great world of London. All in
vain

Did he who called me son beg me to stay;
With many tears my foster-mother plead,
And she who called me brother—with white
face.

But my heart answered Nay, while flowed
our tears.

I did relent again and once again,
But the voice drove me sore, and would be
heard.

One night when I returned late from a
meeting

Hushed was the house; all were enwrapped
in sleep,

Save only Anna—she would speak with me.
Her father's ire was kindled; he liked not
My frequent absence, which mine enemies
Distorted with insinuations vile.

“O, Brother John, how hateful is the
thought

That thou couldst harbor aught of ill intent,
Which in their hate thy foes would fasten
on thee;

For these relentless harpies, of my kin,
Still hover, bent on mischief, round thy
path,

Seeking thy hurt, and I am sore distressed!
Father and Mother are disconsolate;
When thou art absent little Prue doth pout.
Well know I how thy bird-like spirit chafes
Within the narrow confines of thy cage,
Eager for wider fields and loftier skies,
And with vague fear my soul doth follow
thee.

Her pleading sister-love so touched my
heart,
That I, repenting my neglect with tears,
Pressed to my lips her hand, in gratitude.

“*So, sir!*” exclaimed a voice of wrath and
scorn,

And, lo, her father in the shadowy door!
Advancing slow he took her hand from
mine

All trembling now, and, silent, led her
forth.

O'erwhelmed I sat, stark staring after them.

Her sad face smote me—sad as beautiful.
True as the light was she, pure as the
dew;

Gentle her voice, and soft her melting eyes,
Yet loved I her as sister only, wed
Unto religion, passion stirred me not.
How could I hurt her so whose love would
shield me?

Yet how had my indiscretion murdered
peace!

That night I slept not. The next morn
appeared

My foster-mother in dismay. What ill
Had so distraught her husband and her
child;

Could I confess? Then I recounted all,
Saying that I must hence, lest worse
bechance.

With deep emotion she, throwing her arms
About me, plead with me to stay, nor fear
Her husband's anger; bade me give no heed
To the world's call, but stay with them in
peace.

So I, relenting, yielded to her plea,
The while the voice, insistent, bade me go.
Yet naught availed it, for anon I grew
More restless in my fetters; jealousy
Pursuing still my path, demanded all.
Clearer the voice insisted, day by day.

I was distracted; I would burst all bonds,
As ocean's tide sweeps all before its flood—
Not my own mother, hanging on my neck,

Pleading that I would not forsake her now;
That I might help her bear the burdens
God

Had placed upon her shoulders; help her rear
My brothers and my sisters, saying her
hopes

Were shattered, for methought she fain
would call

My foster-sister daughter—then I wept
With her, relenting—but anon more clear
The voice inexorable bade me follow;
Not baby brother, clinging to my knee,
While broke my heart; not little Prue, all
tears,

Come to my chamber to make moan that I
Leave not my playmate, saying Anna sat
Sad-eyed and aimless, or paced to and fro,
Wringing her hands, bedewed with silent
tears;

Nor foster-father's taunt, that I had not
Wherewith to travel, naught to face the
world—

Pouring, contemptuous, vast weight of gold
Into my hat, outstretched at his command,—

Naught stifled in my ears the inexorable
voice.

Then, dazed, I to my mother bore the gold;
But she refused it utterly, bade use
It for my need. With breaking heart she
gave

Her blessing, when she saw I could not
stay:

"Not in himself is the way of man, my
child!

If thou must go, Belovèd, my firstborn,
I bow. May God, thy father's God, keep
thee

From every evil, and thy footsteps guide
To larger service for His holy name!"

Then her dear arms did clasp me to her
breast—

That faithful bosom which erst nourished
me—

Ceasing, she left me there, all tears, grief-
stricken.

Then the voice drave me forth, and I in
haste

Fled through the flowers of the garden gate.
All things invited me, but I passed on;
Dear hearts entreated me, but I passed on,
Dragging my limbs reluctant to the height.

I know not what strong power doth drive
me forth,
But go I must! Into the unknown world
I fare in tears. Am I forth driven by Fate,
Like him of old who fled from Ilion—
From love and luxury of Carthage torn—
Driven by the gods to found imperial Rome!
Wherefore, whereunto am I driven thus?
Wills Heaven, perchance, that I extend
Love's empire?

Saith not the Scripture truly: "In him-
self
Is not the way of man?" Insufferable
Longer this strong-compelling restlessness.
Driven forth from blessedness of Paradise,
Like to the father of mankind I flee!
Doth God, perchance, me lead, as He of
old

Led him of Ur, who sought a better country,
Who took his journey thence, not knowing
whither?

Across the vale, from the hill's crest I
gazed:

Farewell, loved home whose tears for me
are flowing!

Farewell, companions of my prayers and
praise!

Farewell, ye gardens fragrant in the sun,
I tear my heart from all in my despair;
One look; 'tis past, and I am gone forever!

Sore agitated pressed I on, nor looked
What lay behind, till bells of Shandon's
tower

Rang out far chimes o'er the Great March
of Munster

Where Corroch, throned upon her island
fair,

Crowned with her coronet of circling hills,
Saluted me along the banks of Lee,

Heartening my steps. Kindred I found
here dwelling,
Who gave warm welcome to their hearts
and home.
These, learning soon my purpose, cooled
their love,
Looking upon me as adventurer.

Drawn to the Methodists, my spirit spread
Her wings again in the pulpit, upward
soaring
'Mid things divine. The people welcomed
me.
When I descended; glowing with my theme,
Advanced my grandam, who so late re-
proached,
Her blessing to bestow, her eyes alight,
With fire prophetic burning: "Son, go
forth;
The Lord Omnipotent will show thy way!
Thou art ordained from darkness unto light
Many to lead, from Satan unto God.
Thy father's God will bless and prosper
thee.

Look no more back, but forward go in
faith!

Most holy, wise, and powerful, the Lord
Doth govern all His creatures and their
actions.

Yea, in His mighty hand thou art as
clay;

He is thy Potter; He of thee will make
A chosen vessel; none may Him withstand.
I did thee wrong; my blessing now re-
ceive!"

As water to the thirsty soul, as balm
To one sore wounded fell her words of
love.

But soon suspicion woke new enemies
Who called me Calvinist, and such I was;
Such many more about me who received
With joy that mighty preacher, Whitefield,
who

Drew me unto him, fascinating me
With his soul-stirring eloquence. In twain
The Methodists were rent by the Calvinist.

While yet I lingered was I importuned
To abandon thought of England; would I go
To Limerick, to a waiting congregation?
But the voice demanded that I tarry not!

So I took ship, and with wet eyes beheld
Hibernia fade, as the winds wafted us
Through the fair harbor's beauty, past the
fortress

Frowning above the shores of Hawlbowlne,
Commanded by my father's kin; and the
sea

Opened wide arms of welcome as we sped.
Adieu, fair isle, with verdant hill and vale
Adorned, fragrant with bloom, home of
warm hearts,

I shall not see thee more, a long farewell!

.
The magic of the sea; the rapture keen
At sight of England; joy of the Bristol
landing;

The transport of delight at nature's beauty;
The blithesome voice of bird-song, tuneful
hedge

And flower-enamelled meadow—Paradise—
Me welcoming unto my native land;
The walk to Bath from Bristol; fields of
corn;

The valleys redolent of new-mown hay;
The mowers on the banks of Avon, who,
Hearing me offer praise to nature's God,
Hailed me as friend and fellow Methodist,
Led me rejoicing to their cottage, summoned
The neighbors of the countryside to greet
Me with warm welcome, and to hear my
word;

(They dwelt on Avon, yet knew not Shake-
spere's name!)

The simple hospitality, fraternal love;
The meeting with my father's friend in
Bath,

Who caught me in his arms and gazed on me
Son of his youth's companion, bidding me
preach

From my full heart unto his congregation;
The unexpected spring of fellowship,
Bursting upon my path, friends newly
found;

The beauty of the way, as once again
The coach pressed fast toward London; the
solemn glow
Of sunset o'er the world's metropolis,
Whose nearing spires, whose multitudinous
roofs
Half-hidden lay in the murky air; the
voice
Of human life innumerable afar—
Smote me with wonder and with exaltation:

Here taking form my dreams of youth I
saw;
Saw ancient Westminster and Charing Cross
And Strand; passed Drury Lane; saw the
vast dome
Of Wren's proud masterpiece loom on the
night;
Gazed on the storied Tower; on misty
Thames,
Over whose darkling tide the home-bound
throng
Roared upon London Bridge! The myriad
lights

Gleamed out bewildering, pushing back the
gloom
As loud the stage-coach lumbered to the inn.

Alone and friendless in the mighty town,
My hungry eyes feasted upon the wonders
Man through the centuries had slowly
wrought;
Feasted and drank deep draughts until the
night
Drove me within, tears flowing, heart
oppressed.

Old friends of my father's sought I; few
remained.
I sought great Whitefield; he was other-
where.
The Wesleyans found me, but they looked
askance
When I my love for Whitefield had con-
fessed
(I heard him in the Tabernacle oft);
For said not the great Wesley once to me:
"No follower of Calvin lives who hears not

Within his inmost soul a whisper low:
'May I not live as listeth me? What boots
it?'"

Fast flew the days, and fast the attentions
showered

By those 't were mercy I had never known,
The votaries of pleasure, far and near,
Sought and assiduously courted me,
Scenting my gold. Day by day I made
New friends, good company indeed was
deemed—

Yes, I would see the world, but would hold
fast

My heritage of good and my religion!

I was intoxicated, drunk with pleasure!
And one by one my friends invited me
Into the circles of their fellowship.
London, the sorceress had me in her toils.
Spell-bound I yielded. I, by her charms
entranced,
Whirled in the giddy current, lived for
pleasure,

And, as the swirling vortex drew me in,
Forgot the past, the life of prayer and praise,
All the loved company of those that hung
Upon my words of exhortation. All
Things of the Spirit vanished like a dream!

*“Comrades of mirth, let us fill high the bowl,
Fill high the bowl,
Fill high the bowl;
Jolly good fellows are we!
Together we'll drink, and the song lightly troll,
Song lightly troll,
Song lightly troll;
Jolly good fellows are we!
Jolly good fellows, o'erbrimming with fun,
Jolly good fellows are we!*

*“To music's light strain tread the mazes of dance,
Mazes of dance,
Mazes of dance;
Jolly good fellows are we!
Enchanting the measure, bewitching the glance,
'Witching the glance,
'Witching the glance;*

*Jolly good fellows are we!
Jolly good fellows, o'erbrimming with fun,
Jolly good fellows are we!*

*"Begone the dull round, then, of wearisome care,
Wearisome care,
Wearisome care;
Jolly good fellows are we!
Of life's flowing pleasures we'll drink our full share,
Drink our full share,
Drink our full share;
Jolly good fellows are we!
Jolly good fellows, o'erbrimming with fun,
Jolly good fellows are we!"*

I was astonished! I so lately loved,
Admired, followed, revered in the church,
Now a gay reveller! but I brushed aside
The pleas of conscience, and the dance
went on.

Under the table oft I tossed the wine,
Lest I should lose myself in the circling
eddies

That drew me nearer, nearer the abyss.

Held by some Power Divine, I did not sink
Into the pitfall where Vice for my soul
Lay ambushed, masked in gardens of
delight.

Folly's poor slave, scarce snatched from
sure perdition,
Convivial parties, Vauxhall, and the play
Opened a world unknown to me before.

In dreams I saw my father's face aghast,
And my dear mother's gentle eyes in tears.
My conscience smote me sore, but I was
dazed;

This, this was life indeed! I would return
Anon to duty's path and to the fold—
But Folly beckoned, and I followed her;
Then of a sudden found I was submerged
In debt upon the right hand and the left,
And, penniless, I woke from the wild dream!

Startled, I sat me 'neath a tree's deep shade;
Flung my last farthing to a mendicant,
And bowed myself beneath a load of shame.
The vast solemnity of London; concourse

Of myriad souls, surging in life's vain quest;
The spell of eventide; the deep-toned chime;
The bells of Bow Church, summoning to
 prayer,
Its dragon glinted in the setting sun,
Shot through my soul a pang of conster-
 nation!

"Come, sinner, come, arise and come!

'T is not too late!

'T is not too late!

For thee my tongue shall ne'er be dumb;

I call and wait!

I call and wait!

"I call and wait!

I call and wait!

Bethink thee of thy precious soul!

Come, come, and Christ shall make thee whole!

'T is not too late!

'T is not too late!"

An outcast and a prodigal, I thought
Of my good father's counsels and his
 prayers;

Bethought me of my Saviour and my God;
Rose as the darkness fell, hungry, forlorn,
And took my way unto the Tabernacle.

There the great Whitefield wrestled for my
soul.

I all abashed and contrite, crushed by sin,
Lay prone until his fire-swept spirit made
Contact with my dead self, as did the
prophet

Who lay out-stretched upon the widow's
son

And brought him back to life. "If there,
perchance,"

He cried, "be here some wanderer, sin-
crushed

And fearful of his God, let him arise
And go unto his Father, and find peace!"

Then like a mighty wind the Spirit swept
My soul of chaff, and I was free! In tears
I humbly sought my place in the old life,
Found welcome; took up, one by one, the
threads

Long ravelled. Toilsome and slow my
debts were paid

And I gave thanks that God had chosen me
For blessing here, with bliss eternal after,
The while so many, many He passed by.

Such is His sovereign will and pleasure. He
Doth mercy have on whom He will have
mercy,

And whom He will He hardeneth.

.

Swift fled

The days in toil, evenings in converse sweet
With those whom love of God had blessed.

New zeal

Filled all my thoughts and buried the dead
past.

A precious year was squandered, but I went
No more upon the perilous incline

That leads straight down to death, but
soon I turned

And tearful sought forgiveness and found
life,

Eager the brethren flocked to hear my word,

More vital grown with my new consecration.
So widely sought, my heart swelled large
with pride.

.

Hushed was the assembly; I the favorite
Lay preacher was expected. All arose
To greet my coming. With my friend I sat
Amid the audience. My heart was full
Of lofty things I would show forth. At
home

With Churchman and Dissenter, scarce I
knew

To which I most belonged, welcomed by all.
Mindful of Whitefield's admonition, I
Ignoring non-essentials, sought to find
A fundamental bond uniting all.
Eager to move the people, I would speak
This night to Baptists.

Soon my wandering eye
Caught the fair vision of a wondrous face.
I was disturbed, I moved my seat, but still
My fascinated eyes must seek again
Her loveliness. "Who" I asked my friend

(Long had I known and loved him at the meetings),

“Is the fair damsel of the lily gown?”

“It is my sister, and she hath desired
To hear and meet thee. At the meeting’s
close

Let me make each unto the other known.”

I made assent with some indifference,
My thoughts being filled with consecrated
things.

I rose; I spoke and prayed with burning
words;

All hearts were softened, by the Spirit
moved.

He introduced us. Ah, my fickle heart!
What aileth thee? But yesterday wast cold;
Wouldst live austere; wouldst die a celibate
For God. Now art thou swept from thy
strong moorings,

Lost in the rush of waters! I went home
Confounded. Could then women’s loveliness
So fill me with vague fears, with trembling
hope?

Again we met, invited by a friend,
And all too soon the wingèd hours fled.
Her smile—ah, 't was the glowing of the
 dawn,
Before whose joy the shadows flee away!
About her flowed an atmosphere of love;
Radiant with goodness, warm with sym-
 pathy
For nature's children and for humankind.
Her spirit, kin to all things beautiful,
Congenial to all truth, did lightly soar
On joyous wing along the upper air,
Seeing intuitive the things of God,
The while I delved laborious and slow.

Suddenly my soul did fly to her
With arms out-stretched in rapture, as to
 one
Whom I had loved in long-forgotten worlds
And lost erewhile in darkling mists of earth,
Fast melting now before the rising day.
My pride was humbled. I who thought to
 lead
Was cast sheer down from my high pinnacle

At the first utterance of her pure soul!

“Will you be at the meeting a week hence?”

“I hope to come.” Alas, how slow the
days!

How dread the fear her hand perchance
was promised!

I prayed, I struggled, I was mad with love!

The evening came and vanished like a
dream.

For when she spoke it was as if the lyre
With Orpheus' touch divine did breathe
again.

And when she laughed it was as in her voice
The springtide rivulets were murmuring.

Lustrous as cresset planets her soft eyes.

Her glowing locks with rippling sunbeams
shone.

That night we walked together to her home.

Then melted unawares the earth away

From underneath my feet; I trod on air!

Her step, gliding like some sweet melody,

Or blush-rose petal on a summer stream,

Held by my side along the happy way.
I wondered that the passers did not hear
The loud, tempestuous beating of my heart!
And when she laid her hand within my
arm,

Through all my being flowed a rapturous
thrill,

As when Aurora touches stony Memnon,
And the cold, silent lips break into song!

I could not longer wait, but told my love
With all the ardor of my fervent soul.

Then modestly did she at length confess
That she was free, but earnestly protested
That I should seek one worthier my love.
Then the wild torrent of impetuous youth
Poured my hot soul once more into my plea.

Her answer lifted me clean off the earth
Into her own celestial atmosphere;

Nor shall eternity her tones forget—
As if the distant, sweet-voiced silver bells
Of some far, hallowed cloister called to
prayer:

“I have no father on the earth to give

My hand in marriage, therefore I will ask
My Heavenly Father's will, and do thou
likewise.

Whatso His Sovereign Wisdom shall decree
Will I accept, unto His will resigned."

Too soon, too soon we reached her grand-
sire's door—

A man of wealth, a profligate, a churl—
Whose threshold Whitefield's follower ne'er
might cross.

How cruel and how irksome dragged the
week,

The while I prayed as never I prayed before!
And when we met again I told my love,
And how with week-long wrestling I had
plead:

"I prayed as man had never prayed before;
Besought that Heaven would lead me
graciously;

And as I knelt thy face shone everywhere
Before mine eyes; yea, even the mercy
seat

Did it obscure with a new glory streaming
From thy dear form and filling all the
 heavens.

I could not keep my wandering thoughts
 on God,

For very love of thee, so was I led.

And as my soul did thread its eager way
Along the parting ranks of bright immortals,
Prostrate to fall before the mercy seat,
Begging the Omnipotent to give me thee,
Behold! each angel's face grew more like
 thine;

More radiant shone the innumerable throng,
Until the throne was haloed with thy
 beauty—

And so my prayers were answered, my
 Eliza!"

Then made she answer, and her voice did
 breathe

Like the sweet chiming of far wedding bells,
And her eyes glowed as the soft virgin light
Of the young crescent when in balmy June
The twilight air is redolent of bloom:

"I prayed, and as I prayed I saw a way
Embowered in roses, and 't was passing fair,
As 't were a path leading through Paradise;
And therein, hand in hand, a youth and
maiden.

The way led through a region of delight;
The air delicious, vocal with sweet song.
Inseparable walked they till they came
Where 'neath the sunlight loomed an ebon
cloud,

Threatening and vast. Beneath it crept
the way,

And further of the twain I naught could
see.

Beyond the gloom there glowed a golden
light,

And I beheld the maid go forth alone.

Alone she passed through fields of asphodel,
Till she in light ineffable was lost.

I know not what the shadow may portend;
I know not why the maid went forth alone,
But, hand in hand, they walked in Para-
dise—

John, my belovèd, I will go with thee!

Whether our pathway lead through Para-
dise,
Or through the shadow of that fearsome
cloud,
Thou hast my heart, my hand I lay in
thine!"

So plighted we our troth before High
Heaven,
The moon a witness and the seal a kiss—
A kiss ecstatic as immortal bliss!

.
"Give up this hypocrite, this fortune hunter,
Or not a farthing of my wealth shalt thou
Inherit. Round his name foul rumors cling
Like noisome serpents. Prithee, read this
letter!"

Thus spake Eliza's grandsire. In her hand
She took the sheet, writ by her younger
brother,
Brimming with slander poured upon my
head.
With crimson cheek she read, then gently
spake:

"O venerable sire, I do entreat
Thy patience, and I pray that thou wilt see
And speak with this most worthy man
before

Thou givest ear to this invidious tale,
Which, me beseems, is writ thy mind to
poison.

John Murray is an honest man, and loves
Me with a love as pure, as strong as man
E'er gave to woman, and my heart is his.
The coming years shall know and prove this
man

A chosen vessel, favored of the Lord,
To bear the precious incense of His truth
Afar. He is a man of lofty soul
And true. Whate'er his lot, it shall be
mine.

Could I believe aught else of him I would
Obey thy wish. E'en now I fain would
wait

Upon thine age and serve thine every need;
For many a year thy roof hath sheltered
me.

I pray thee patience!"

Here the old man, flushed
With anger, cried: "This will not do!
Abide
Thou in thy room, and three days hence do
thou
Give me thy final answer, for I swear
If thou discard him not, I leave thee naught,
Nay, not one farthing. There be worthier
youths
Who fain would win thee!"—and he left the
room.

Three days of agony were hers and mine;
For she had written by a faithful hand
To tell me of her trial. The third day
He summoned her and sternly once again
Bade her between his fortune and my
love
Make choice. Then strong in love un-
daunted, she
Declared her joy that she might prove me
true.
"My love," she cried, "may not be bought
or sold;

Nor have I wavered; nay, not all thy
wealth
Shall count a feather's weight! Sir, I
renounce
Thy fortune for his love! Thou hast mine
answer."

Darkening with passion, his last will he
clutched
And cast it to the flames; and so was lost
For love her patrimony; and the churl
Anon bequeathed by a new instrument
A thousand pounds unto the crafty scribe
Who had intrigued mine honor to defame.

*"Truelove, for thee I pine,
My heart, my life is thine;
I scorn his gold!*

*"What 's all his wealth to me,
Parted from thee?
Raiment of silken sheen,
Jewels to crown a queen
Were but as dross to me,
Parted from thee!*

*"Truelove, thou art so dear
Naught, naught my heart should fear,
Were I with thee!
Proud were I at thy side,
Scorning the scorner's pride—
In poverty!*

*"What be these lands to me,
Parted from thee?
Scorn I his deeds, his gold;
My love may not be sold
For luxury!*

*"Perish his glittering hoard!
Thou shalt alone be lord
Of my free heart.
Mine eyes, rebuke these tears!
Banish, O heart, thy fears!
Fail not thy part!*

*"Truelove, thou art my all;
Naught shall my heart appall,
When thou art near!
My love is thine alone;
For thee I'd lose a throne,
Nor shed a tear.*

*"Never from thee to roam;
Thy love my happy home!—
How pines my aching heart
In misery!
Ah, how thy step I miss!
What rapture is thy kiss!
Earth had no higher bliss,
Were I with thee!"*

Ah, happy, happy me this heart to win!
And happy glowed the days that were in
store;
Dreams as delightful as the breath of
Heaven.
What were the wealth of worlds to love so
strong!
She, closely guarded, being not yet of
age,
Was constant as the day, though many
wooed,
And sought her hand in marriage, but in
vain.
Now did her grandsire urge her to accept
A suitor of his choice; anon a note

Forged by her recreant brother, bade me
cease

From waiting, and abandon hope. With
scorn

This she denounced, and at our weekly
tryst—

She was permitted once a week to visit
Beneath good Mercy Allen's friendly roof—
Bade me hold fast my faith in God and her.

My joy was full when oft before the dawn
I waited at her door to accompany her
Through the dim streets—strangely in-
different

They seemed unto her beauty and our
bliss—

To the young people's meetings where the
day

Was ushered in with prayer and praise, as
led

The saintly Whitefield to the realms of light.
(So mixed love's ardor with religious zeal—
Oh, how delightful youth's enthusiasm!—
That an o'er zealous watchman, on patrol,

Arrested me one morn as a night-prowler,
But to my protestations soon gave ear.)

There did our souls float heavenward side
by side,

Rapt unto regions of delight and wonder;
All unto each, twin spirits blissful soaring—
Too brief, alas, the joy! earthward descend-
ing,

- Parted we mournful at her envious door.

A twelvemonth followed—if what seemèd
years

Were months.—Now rising hope, now dark-
ling fear

Haunted my path.

'T was in the blush of May
One morn her brother William, our fast
friend,

To soothe my ruffled spirits, led me
forth

And we were strolling through the country-
side.

The new-born day was redolent of bloom,

The hedges breathing tuneful roundelays,
And all things seemed to wait a crowning
joy!

Approached afar a maiden; as she came,
The air more fragrant breathed, the song
more sweet.

Lo, 't was Eliza, bearing in her hand
A little parcel, pitifully small.
With this—her all—her childhood's home
she fled

On this sweet day of her majority,
Refuge to seek beneath her brother's roof.

We turned and went with her; my heart did
leap

With joy that I so soon should call her mine!
But with soft eyes of love she tenderly
Reproved my eagerness: "I would not have
It seem that I had left a parent's roof
E'en for the refuge of a husband's arms.
Nor will I burden thee, my brother, I
Am skilful with my needle to provide
My simple needs."

The tortoise months crept by
Till, love-illumined, half a year had passed.
Then did the blissfulest youth beneath the
sun

Lead to the altar the most winsome bride
That sun e'er shone upon, her rippling hair
Golden beneath a veil so tenuous
It seemed some radiant seraph's aureole,
Or moonbeam envious of her loveliness.
There bloomed no flower on earth or in the
heavens

That could compare that day with my
Eliza;

The breath of orange flowers in her hair,
And in her hand a lily. On her breast
A happy rose lay dreaming, lost in bliss.
Around her clung a virgin robe of white,
Raiment of lilies, that had swept the
ground

Had not her sister graces held the train.
Joy strewed before her roses; voice of birds
Saluted her with joyous madrigals.
Radiant with blessing, breathing melody,
She seemed to move within a charmed air.

.
Guests of her brother's hospitality,
Sometime abode we from the honeymoon.
Success in business followed and a home
Filled with the light of love, with gardens
wreathed,
And Heaven was glad to see our happiness.
There the sweet presence of Eliza filled
Our dwelling with the fragrance of a bower,
Where summer breathes, and bird-song-
joyance flows;
And everywhere touches of grace did bloom,
Born of the sunlight of her radiant soul.
And unto us a son was given, whose
coming
Opened the fountains of a love unknown,
Undreamed before, sprung from celestial
heights;
And little hands our mutual hearts inwove
With ever dearer bonds. Our cup was full.

.
One peaceful Sabbath, in ecstatic frame,
Fresh from partaking of the Sacrament,
Leaving the Tabernacle, where the gates

Of Heaven seemed opening with wide welcome, I

Rejoicing, as among the elect, strolled forth
On Moorsfields common. There a man
was preaching,

As was the accustomed practice of the day,
Unto a crowd of listeners beneath
A tree's wide shade, rapt in attention.

"Sir,"

I asked a passer-by, "what man is this
That doth so draw the people unto him?"

"This is one Relly," answered he disdainful,
"Who doth delude his hearers with the hope
Of final bliss for all, when sin hath reaped
Full harvest here of pleasure. Curse the
knave!

A Welshman who, poor fool, would stir up
London.

Damnab!e heresy, forsooth, he spreads
Among the people; hear the prating fool!"

Fell on my ears the words: "Inseparable
The Gospel from reproach. I may not shun
it.

Therefore, rejoicing, I with open arms
Meet it, and to the world am crucified!
O gracious Union, wondrous Love! Let him
Who is thence fallen say: 'Mine enemy,
Rejoice thou not against me, for though I
Be fallen, yet through Christ I shall arise!'"

I listened but a moment and passed on.
Vehement I denounced him as blasphemer
And was exceeding mad that he should open
Wide the broad floodgates of the world to
sin.

Bandied about were rumors in the Church
Of this dark hypocrite who in the name
Of God was doing Satan's work. Methought
I would have rendered service to the Lord
Could I the villain's life have taken; base
Lurer of weaklings down to sure perdition.

Early and late I sought the Tabernacle
And, as I passed along the crowded streets,
My heart swelled with the thought that
God had snatched

Me, as a brand from the burning, out of these
Vast multitudes predestined to destruction!

.
Here! read these leaves, torn from my
journal, writ

When I was young, driven with a narrow zeal
'Gainst them whom I did hold accursed of
God,

Disciples of that Soul-destroyer, Relly.
Read how the mask from my self-righteous
soul

Was torn by the gentle hand of one whom I
Went forth to snatch from deadly heresy.¹

¹ *Leaves from an old Journal follow:*

"I had frequently been solicited to hear him, merely that I might be an ear-witness of what was termed his *blasphemies*; but I arrogantly said, I would not be a *murderer of time*. Thus I passed on for a number of years, hearing all manner of evil said of Mr. Relly, and I *believed all I heard*, while every day augmented the inveterate hatred which I bore against this man and his adherents.

"When a worshipping brother or sister belonging to the communion, which I considered as honored by the approbation of Deity, was drawn from the paths of rectitude by this deceiver, the anguish of my spirit was indescribable; . . . one instance in particular pierced me to the soul.

So Paul of Tarsus was exceeding mad
Against the pure disciples of the Way,
Whom he, with fiery zeal, did persecute,
Till from the heavens a Voice smote low
his pride,
And humbled him with light ineffable.

“A young lady of irreproachable life, remarkable for piety, and highly respected by the Tabernacle, congregation and church, of which I was a devout member, had been ensnared. To my great astonishment, she had been induced to hear, and having heard she had embraced, the pernicious errors of this detestable babbler; she was become a believer, a firm and unwavering believer, of universal redemption! Horrible! Most horrible!

“So high an opinion was entertained of my talents, having myself been a teacher among the Methodists, and such was my standing in Mr. Whitefield’s church, that I was deemed adequate to reclaim this wanderer, and I was strongly urged to the pursuit. The poor deluded young woman was abundantly worthy our most arduous efforts. *He that converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.* Thus I thought, thus I said, and, swelled with a high idea of my own importance, I went, accompanied by two or three of my Christian brethren, to see, to converse with, and, if need were, to admonish this simple, weak, but, as we heretofore believed, meritorious female; fully persuaded

*Hail, prophetess of All-Redeeming Love!
How rapturous the song of choirs above,
When thou didst lead thy captive to Love's feet,
Turned from the night by thine insistence sweet!*

that I could easily convince her of her errors, I entertained no doubt respecting the result of my undertaking.

"The young lady received us with much condescension and kindness, while, as I glanced my eye upon her fine countenance, beaming with intelligence, mingled pity and contempt grew in my bosom. After the first ceremonies, we sat for some time silent; at length I drew up a heavy sigh, uttered a pathetic sentiment relative to the deplorable condition of those who live and die in unbelief, and concluded a violent declamation, by pronouncing *with great earnestness*, '*he that believeth not shall be damned.*'

"'And pray, Sir,' said the young lady with great sweetness, 'Pray, Sir, for not believing what is the unbeliever damned?'

"'For not believing what? *Why, he is damned for not believing.*'

"'But, my dear Sir, I asked what was that, which he did not believe, for which he was damned?'

"'Why, for not believing in Jesus Christ to be sure.'

"'Do you mean to say that unbelievers are damned for not believing there was such a person as Jesus Christ?'

"'No, I do not; a man may believe there was such a person, and yet be damned.'

*O nameless one, thou shalt remembered be
With reverence by a long posterity!—
A vestal virgin of the flame divine,
On whose pure altar truth did clearly shine.*

“‘What then, Sir, must he believe, in order to avoid damnation?’

“‘Why, he must believe, that Jesus Christ is a complete Saviour.’

“‘Well, suppose he were to believe, that Jesus Christ was the complete Saviour of others, would this belief save him?’

“‘No, he must believe that Jesus Christ is his complete Saviour; every individual must believe *for himself, that Jesus Christ is his complete Saviour.*’

“‘Why, Sir, is Jesus Christ the Saviour of any unbeliever?’

“‘No, Madam.’

“‘Why then should any *unbeliever* believe that Christ Jesus is his Saviour, *if he is not his Saviour?*

“‘I say he is not the Saviour of any one until he believes.’

“‘Then if Jesus be not the Saviour of the *unbeliever until he believes*, the unbeliever is called upon to believe a lie. It appears to me, Sir, that Jesus is the complete Saviour of *unbelievers*, and that unbelievers are called upon to believe the truth, and that by *believing, they are saved in their own apprehension, saved from all those dreadful fears,*

*Lead thou the sisterhood, in this far day,
Of those who fain would show the fairer way
Unto His feet—with intuition clear—
Who loosed the fetters of the slaves of fear!*

which are consequent upon unbelief, upon a state of conscious condemnation.'

"No, Madam, you are dreadfully, I trust not fatally, misled. Jesus never was, nor never will be, the Saviour of any unbeliever.'

"Do you think he is your Saviour, Sir?"

"I hope he is.'

"Were you always a believer, Sir?"

"No, Madam.'

"Then you were once an unbeliever, that is, you once believed that Jesus was not your Saviour. Now, as you say, he never was nor *never will be*, the Saviour of any unbeliever, as you were once an *unbeliever*, he can never be your Saviour.'

"He never was my Saviour till I believed.'

"Did he never die for you till you believed, Sir?"

"Here I was extremely embarrassed, and most devoutly wished myself out of her habitation. I sighed bitterly, expressed deep commiseration for those deluded souls who had nothing but head knowledge; drew out my watch, *discovered it was late*, and, recollecting an engagement, observed it was time to take leave.

"I was extremely mortified; the young lady observed

One day a manuscript was given me.
The writer bid me read it ere 't was
printed—

An attack upon a book called *Union*, writ
By this corrupter, Relly. Would I say
How it appealed to me? As I did read
I grew impatient and would see this *Union*
Which my friend seemed so weak to over-
throw.

Anon, by chance, the book came to my
hands,

For I was loth to buy it openly,
And as I, eager, read it, I was filled

my confusion, but was too generous to pursue her triumph. I arose to depart, the company arose; she urged us to tarry, addressed each one of us in language of kindness; her countenance seemed to wear a resemblance of the Heaven which she contemplated—it was stamped with benignity, and when she bade us adieu, she enriched us with her good wishes.

“I suspected that my religious brethren saw she had the advantage of me, and I *felt* that her remarks were indeed *unanswerable*; my pride was hurt, and I determined to ascertain the exact sentiments of my associates respecting this interview. ‘Poor soul,’ said I, ‘she is far gone in error.’ ‘True,’ said they, ‘but she is, notwithstanding, a very

With strong desire to hear the writer; stole
By night unto his humble place of worship—
Where once before, after long years of
scorn,

I ventured, by my curiosity
Impelled; but hatred and contempt had
closed

Mine ears and understanding to his plea.

Went too Eliza. Dear Eliza! There
The heavens were opened to our enraptured
eyes.

There saw we Christ, of all earth's trees
alone

sensible woman.' 'Ay, ay,' thought I, 'they have assuredly discovered that she has proved too mighty for me.' 'Yes,' said I, 'she has a great deal of head-knowledge, but yet she may be a lost, damned soul.' 'I hope not,' returned one of my friends, 'she is a very good young woman.'

"I saw, and it was with extreme chagrin, that the event of this visit had depreciated me in the opinion of my companions; but I could do no more than censure and condemn, solemnly observing, it was better to avoid conversing with these apostates and it would be judicious never to associate with them upon any occasion.

"From this period I, myself, carefully avoided every Universalist, *and most cordially did I hate them.*"

The Good Tree, that corrupt fruit cannot
bear;

Under whose shadow man may rest secure—
The Blessèd Apple-Tree, feeding mankind;
Bearing alone good fruit 'mid evil trees;
Bearing good fruit for all our sin-cursed
race,

Whom evil hath corrupted and made
barren.¹

¹An old hymn, from the collection printed by James Springer, New London, Conn., A.D., 1800.

Christ, the Apple-Tree

*"The Tree of Life my soul hath seen,
Laden with fruit, and always green;
The trees of nature fruitless be,
Compared with Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

*"This beauty doth all things excell,
By faith I know but ne'er can tell
The glory which I now can see
In Jesus Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

*"For happiness I long have sought,
And pleasure dearly have I bought;
I miss'd for all, but now I see
'Tis found in Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

Mankind the family of God we saw,
 And on His throne beheld the World-
 Redeemer,
 With him eternally at one all poor
 Victims of sorrow, prisoners of sin,
 Inseparable from His heart of love—
 The Son of God in union with all men,
 Bought with His precious blood on Calvary.

*“ I ’m weary with my former toil,
 Here I shall sit and rest awhile;
 Under the shadow I shall be
 Of Jesus Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

*“ With great delight I ’ll make my stay,
 There ’s none shall fright my soul away;
 Among the sons of men I see
 There ’s none like Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

*“ I ’ll sit and eat this fruit divine,
 It cheers my heart like spiritu’l wine;
 And now this fruit is sweet to me,
 That grows on Christ, the Apple-Tree.*

*“ This fruit doth make my soul to thrive,
 It keeps my dying faith alive;
 Which makes my soul in haste to be
 With Jesus Christ, the Apple-Tree.”*

*Union mysterious of the Lord of Grace
With every son of Adam's fallen race!*

*So firm the bond, indissolubly strong,
It ne'er shall be destroyed by sin or wrong.*

*Grief may not drown it, nor the tempest break,
Nor powers of Hell the mighty compact shake.*

*For love of man He left His throne above ;
For love He wrought and died—Ah, wondrous
love !*

*Upon Himself He took the world's vast sin;
Empty His heart, till all were gathered in!*

*With us united in the bonds of love,
With Him He bears us to His realms above;*

*Whate'er is His to us is freely given—
One in the pains of Earth and bliss of Heaven.*

My pride was humbled by the vision: I
The saint, but one of God's great family?
How vain my pride; how vast the might of
Love!

Then saw I, in the light of Calvary,
Shrivel my old solicitude for *self*;
Saw Love more wide, more vast abound,
 all-strong
To bear the sin and sorrow of the world;
Saw Love unbought, Love unconditioned,
 free—
Not men alone the quest, not *men*, but
 Man—
Inseverable saw I God and Man.

.
Then, like the rapture of awakening spring,
Eliza's voice breathed forth its melody,
Filling our home with her sweet soul's de-
 light:

*Frowning forests hid the sun,
 The sun that burns for all;
The path of Hope, in light begun,
 Lay buried 'neath a pall.*

*Beneath the snow a floweret sweet
 Was dreaming of the day
When springtide light its bloom should greet
 With long-forgotten ray.*

*Hope, scenting fragrance in the gloom,
 Pressed on with hastening wing—
 Of this sweet blossom's heartening bloom
 My gladdened soul would sing.*

*Little flower, little flower!
 Thy breath is wafted wide;
 The murk and gloom have felt thy power,
 And may not long abide.*

.
 Our visits ever and anon repeated,
 'T was noisèd soon throughout the church,
 and I
 Was summoned to the Tabernacle, there
 To give account of my detestable
 And deadly heresy to all the band
 Of Whitefield's followers. In gloomy ranks
 And solemn mien they sat, and bade me
 tell
 If I in truth had listened to that monster;
 Had I been snared? Then I stood forth and
 said:

“Reverend and holy men of God, give ear
 A little space, while I declare the faith

For which ye would condemn and cast me
out.

Ye ask me to keep silent, to restrain
My feet from following in this new light.
My feet I may not shackle at your hest,
Where God hath set me free, nor silent keep.

“As I, spell-bound, have listened unto him,
This man whom ye despise hath shed new
light
Upon the word of God, illumining
The mystery, the wonders of His grace.

“As waxed the cloud before the prophet's
eyes,
At first no bigger than his hand, until
With promise of the blessèd rain it filled
The heavens, life pouring on the parchèd
earth,
So grew the Love Divine before mine eyes,
And my heart swelled with wonder and
delight.

“Brethren, the Holy One of God may not
Be limited by our too narrow bounds!

His ways are not as our ways. As the
 heavens
Are high above the earth, so are His
 thoughts
High above ours. Those blessed out-
 stretched arms,
Heedless of pain, if they might reach man's
 heart,
Embraced on Calvary all humankind;
Nor will He from His labors rest until
The travail of His soul be satisfied.

“My brethren, there be deeper depths in
 Love
Than we have sounded. The world's sin
 doth cry
For One that knoweth not defeat; for One
Who shall not be discouraged when the
 clouds
Of evil hide the sun, and break in fury
On His bowed head; who, having under-
 taken,
Will yet perform, whose love out-lasteth sin.
Where sin abounds, grace doth much
 more abound!

"Ye say He died for the elect. Aye, verily!
Some be elect to lead the way; to labor
Full time in the vineyard; some at the
eleventh hour

Service to give; but on them all His grace
Bestoweth equal bounty, shaming the
sluggard.

And they who late begin lose of His joy.

"From the dark thought that God would
reprobate

A sin-cursed soul to aimless fires eternal,
As foreordained by the Almighty's stern
decree,

For His own glory, shrinks my soul aghast!
(Hath Satan aught conceived of deeper
dye?)

Or that the Spotless One of Calvary,
Whose we all be, who bare all in His heart,
Which brake with all our sorrows and
despair,

Should suffer shameful death for all man-
kind

And fail of His high purpose, with a remnant

Only out-snatched from the world-wide
wreck of sin,
Staggers my understanding and my faith,
And heaps discomfiture upon His shame.

“How is He Saviour, pray, who cannot
save;

Who cannot light the dungeon of despair,
Nor with Love's steady glow the prisoner
wake;

Who cannot draw the sin-blind soul to him,
As He hath promised all mankind to draw?
How may the sinner call Him Saviour who
Shall sit in judgment on that last great
day

To hurl him down to everlasting woe?
Shall he bear witness to a lie; or shall
He save himself, ignoring Calvary?

“Yea, when the Son of God shall be revealed
In flaming fire, with all His mighty angels,
Then shall He vengeance take on them that
know

Not God, obeying not the Gospel. Love

Despised will vengeance take, but how?

Will Love

Cast down the sinner to the deeper depths
Of sin eternal? Will He not rather choose
The vengeance Joseph heaped upon his
brethren,

They who wrought him evil; who thought
scorn

To bow before him, as his dream foretold;
When he, having rescued them from famine
brought

Them down to Egypt, where they saw him
robed

In splendor—their own blood!—and gladly
bowed,

Making obeisance low, proud of their kin?
Such is the vengeance the Redeemer takes;
Thus will He triumph over every foe!

“For saith the Lord: I by myself have
sworn;

My word hath gone forth and will not re-
turn,

That every knee to Me shall bow, that every

Tongue shall confess, in that day surely say :
I in the Lord have righteousness and
strength.

“Be not deceived; on Him hath been bestowed
All power that is on earth and in the
heavens;
Nor is He bounded by the dusky stream,
Nor swerved by terrors of the wilderness;
And not in vain shall His all-searching eye
Seek till He find His wayward, sin-hurt
sheep!

“There is a Gospel that speaks peace and
joy
Unto the few that have their Saviour found,
But to earth's teeming multitudes disaster
Bodes. Another, Love's true Gospel, holds
Each soul of man so precious, so divine,
Time may not quench the spark, nor all the
wastes
Of vast eternity; nor sin destroy
The heritage of one for whom Christ died.

"God no taskmaster is, exacting service
In payment for His love. Ah, nay!
The measure of His love is human need.
When turns the prodigal to Him, though
day

Be wellnigh spent in sin, at eventide
He goeth forth to meet him, in His hands
Love's largess; the dead past forgot in
joy

That His lost child unto himself hath come.
Our sins forgiven, He doth blot them out—
Lost in the cycles of eternal bliss!

"Brethren, I counsel you beware, lest ye
Be found fighting against the Lord of
Hosts—

The hosts of Love that breathe in summer
winds

And in the tempest's clarion voice; that
glow

In sparkling dew-drop and in burning star,
And in the blaze of dazzling seraphim;
That fill the earth and heavens, yea, the
abyss of Hell,

Marshalled for war! For Love is Lord of
all,
And must at last prevail o'er every foe!

“How passing strange, how grievous that
the church
Should brand me heretic and infidel;
Me from her household excommunicate,
Because I hold that Christ for all hath
died;
That all men on the Cross were dead with
Him,
With Him to rise, with Him in glory reign;
Because I dare His love to claim for all,
Love unconditioned for all humankind,
The love sin may not conquer; that all
men
God's offspring be, and brothers all man-
kind—
That not in vain He died, but unto Him
All men, all creatures in the earth and
heavens
Shall flee for refuge, and shall refuge find
In His great heart—ye call me infidel!

“Brethren, this man whom ye despise hath
opened

To my astonished eyes a new world! Yea,
A world whose grandeur too resplendent is
For mortal vision; whose stupendous whole
We may not grasp; beyond the reach of
sense,

Save in disjointed fragments dimly seen—
Vouchsafed to comfort woe, faith to inspire
A world where all things move harmonious;
Where Discord dead, his appointed work
accomplished,

Order divine rules evermore; whose airs
Breathe joy antiphonal from soul to soul;
And man, redeemed, sings universal praise.

“Nay, my belovèd brethren, could ye turn
My back upon the vision I have seen,
Or should it fade from sight, as fades a
dream,

I should of all men be most miserable.
For I have followed Rely unto heights
From whose commanding crest I did be-
hold—

As Moses from high Pisgah Canaan saw—
 A new world opening to my enraptured eyes.
 May God be praised, the God of Light and
 Love!"

.

*Sing to the Lord of Light and Love
 A noble song of praise ;
 Sing with rejoicing hosts above
 The joy that fills our days !*

*The travail of the world is long,
 And long the blight of sin ;
 But Love, Almighty Love is strong,
 And Love at last shall win !*

*His light outshining sun and star,
 Outlasting Earth and Time,
 Shall banish error's night afar
 And bring the day sublime.*

*His love in triumph onward flows
 As flows the mighty sea ;
 Victorious over all His foes,
 Filling eternity !*

.

Then did they cast me out, and I went
home

And opened all my sorrows to Eliza;
And she did weep with me and 'mid our
tears

She whispered: "Courage, John! Now art
thou first

Accounted worthy for Lord Christ to suffer.

Thou shouldst be proud and glad to bear
the cross

With Him whom we so late have learned
to know

As the World-Saviour, the All-Conqueror!"

.

Then hovered Hatred round our path, a
vampire

Bent on destruction, thirsting for our blood.

Close followed a dark train of woes that
wove

A net about us: sickness, debt, and death—

Dragged, as by the resistless hand of
Fate—

Home, friendship, happiness engulfed in
ruin!

.
*Inseparable walked they till they came
Where 'neath the sunlight loomed an ebon
cloud,
Threatening and vast. Beneath it crept the
way.*

.
On that last morn to me she faintly clung;
Each cruel throe my heart with anguish
 wrung;
Forspent she laid her head upon my breast,
Wearied with pain, and sighed to be at rest.
I hung upon each halted, fleeting breath,
Chilled by the shadow of the wings of
 Death.
Hand clasped in hand, we neared the
 stream's dark brink,
In whose deep waters she began to sink.

One look of love unutterable cast
She on my tears—one look; it was the last.
Then the cold river claimed her for his
 own,
And her pure spirit from my arms had
 flown.

Cold grew the hand that lay so still in mine
Day was no more; my light had ceased to
shine!

Eliza, O Eliza, without thee
My life is but an empty, storm-swept sea
Whose angry billows have gone over me!
My light is darkness and my hope despair,
My life in ruins! All that was so fair
Is quenched in utter gloom, and the failing
sun,
Before the noon-tide hour, his course hath
run.

From tribulation whither shall I flee,
Beset, beleaguered round with misery!
My troubles spring as sparks that mount
the sky,
As grass for multitude about my feet.
The heavens are brass, they heed not
when I cry;
For me no pity on the mercy seat!
Ah, woe is me that ever I was born!
Now breaks my heart, with bitter anguish
torn.

Whither shall I from His hard presence
flee?

I will escape in the tumult of the sea,
Where to the angry sky hoarse trumpets
roar;

Where fierce gales lash the deep from shore
to shore.

My back I turn upon my native land;
Reckless I haste me to the western strand;
With broad Atlantic wastes far-stretched
between,

Perchance I may forget what might have
been.

There will I lose myself in wilds unknown,
Where savage man and wolf and panther
roam,

Far, far away from kindred, love, and
home—

“Home!” “Cruel mockery!” my heart
makes moan,

While I, without the accustomed casement,
gaze

To see strange forms around my hearth-
stone-blaze—

Beside that hearth sweet converse did we
hold,

Our grief and care shut out, the night, the
cold.

Now pause I here upon the jarring street—
How crushed my heart, how chained my
aimless feet!

And in that upper room one morn the
light

Our firstborn saw, our joy, our souls' de-
light—

From that dark chamber, ere the year was
dead,

Our hearts' desire to sun-lit fields had fled;
The tie that knit us to the years to come,
Was rudely torn—for us his lips were
dumb.

Now, through immortal gardens, wreathed
with joy,

With glory crowned, she leads my happy
boy—

And I, shut out, in this dark world below,
Grapple with woe!

Thy judgments stagger me;
O God, Thy hand is heavy, I would flee;
Forget my vows, Thy service, and be
free!

Ah, what is home, bereft of wife and child?
And what is native land, with conscience
bound?

I flee the face of man,
The church's ban,
Lofty contempt and withering scorn
Of those that called me "Brother," borne
As bears the felon his polluted name,
Branded with shame,
The tumult and relentless wrath
That long have dogged my path—
I flee it all; I care not, know not where,
So heavy is the weight of my despair,
If but oblivion might bury me,
A wreck bewildered, swallowed of the
sea!

.

I hated life. A debtor's prison mine,
Through the malevolence of enemies,

Who threatened loathsome Newgate as my
goal.

All night I paced my prison floor alone,
Grieving and desperate. All joy was fled;
With grief distraught, eager with mine own
hand

My life to end, with conscience fought I;
strove

To justify the deed; in frenzy called
On death to set me free, to end my shame.

While thus I grovelled in despair, behold!
Eliza, all transfigured, stood before me,
And with soft eyes of pity, love-suffused,
Bade me arise, and patient wait for God.
And, as she vanished, fell a wondrous calm
Upon my soul, and day broke on the dark-
ness.

Lo, then, a wonder! for not many days
Had flown, when to my rescue friendship
came—

Sole of all friends, her brother; in his hand
A parchment setting forth through inter-
cession

Of his true love, my debts were cancelled
all—

Clean blotted out, as was the world's vast
debt

On Calvary, and humankind set free.

I was astounded; would not have him
bound

For my redemption; but he bid me eat
And drink, for I was famished; bid me
follow,

For he was fain to set me on my feet.

So I did thrive in business, and my kin-
dred

Would make for me the semblance of a
home.

Again did fortune woo me with her smiles,
Again my garden breathed her winsome
fragrance;

'T was but in vain, for ever in mine ear
Whispered a Voice that drave me oversea,
I cared not whither, and I knew not
why.

And so again the tempest swept my soul!

.
Pleading James Rely urged: "O John, be-
hold

How blest are we to whom the Lord hath
shown

Truth as it is in Jesus! Dost thou dare
Hide this so great a light beneath a bushel!
Dost thou not hear the Saviour calling
thee

To bear the comfort of His word abroad,
To let His blessèd light shine in thick dark-
ness,

To kindle hope where long despair hath
dwelt,

To feed the famished souls of sinful men,
To honor His great name whom we adore?

But I was obdurate; my soul was hurt
With contact of the world, crushed by its
scorn.

Nay, I would seek the New World solitudes,
Bury my griefs, and shun the face of man.
Nature, perchance, with kindly touch would
pour

Her soothing balm, from timeless forest
shades,
From the wild meadow, sleeping in the sun,
From the deep mystery of cloud-wrapped
steep—

Her healing balm pour on my aching wounds.

.

Beneath me crept the Thames, with ship-
ping burthened,

Bearing rich tribute of all lands to London,
Where from her seat the Queen of empire
rules,

Forth reaching with her navies round the
world—

Tribute of spice, of silken marvels, gems
From dim Cathay; from opulence of
Indies

Treasure undreamed; the wealth of Europe
poured

From teeming mart and mine, e'en from the
wilds

Of far America tribute to London,
That glimmering lay in the far distance—
once

My happy home, the tomb now of my
hopes!

How vain, how vain the wealth of worlds to
me!

Not far away I saw the misty sea,
Vast and mysterious, with terror veiled,
Waiting to bear me hence to the unknown.
All, all was lost; for me was desolation!
Prostrate I cast me on my Mother-earth—
I clutched her bosom, as with dying hands
Heart-broken my hot tears rained on her
breast—

Entreating her to open wide her arms
And take me evermore to her embrace,
Lest I go forth a blighted wanderer,
An exile branded with the scorn of men.

Sounded the warning gun, and from the
peak
Of the brig *Hand in Hand* fluttered the
signal—

The hour of my departure was at hand,
And slowly I went down the hill in tears.



*Ye winds that overlord the restless sea,
Full many an eager sail and pennon
brave,
Of proud Armada, of rich argosy,
Torn of your tempests, where no helm
could save,
Have sunk to silence in the ravening
wave,
Unseen, save by the hard, unpitying sky;
Have plunged the abyss to a forgotten
grave,
Amid sea-wildernesses strange to lie,
Mocked by the vainly circling sea-bird's lonely cry!*

*Forbear, O mighty sea-winds, for a while
Your fury! and bid Eurus steadfast
blow;
Dispel the storm-clouds! let the heavens smile*

*On yon good ship, that fain would
westward go!*

*A precious seed she bears that God will
sow*

*And bring to fruitage on a new-found strand,
To illume the darkness and to comfort
woe.*

*Winds, waft her gently to the sunset land!
Speed well, kind winds, the richly freighted "Hand
in Hand!"*

*Forbear! nor let the boisterous waters wake
The spirit of Love's Herald, bruised and
sore;*

*Let him sleep on, until the Lord shall make
His servant whole upon the welcoming
shore,*

*There to make known Love's ever-open
door;*

*The Father's love—Oh, that my voice might be
Attuned with loftier strains Him to
adore!—*

*To light a beacon, that all men may see
Love's way, and, hand in hand, walk there eternally.*



*O, summer winds, O, summer winds,
Come breathe a soothing symphony;
Come softly blow, come softly blow
A sweet Æolian threnody!
I hear loved voices whisper as ye pass;
So sweet and low, so faintly heard, alas!*

*O, summer winds, O, summer winds,
Fair Spring hath piped her roundelay;
She joyful sang, she joyful sang,
With her April smiles and her wreathes
of May;
My being thrills beneath your ardent kiss,
O, summer winds, with deep ecstatic bliss.*

*O, summer winds, O, summer winds,
What bourne of rapture do ye seek?
Soft airs, from what enchanted clime
Waft ye your kisses on my cheek;*

*While days gone by come back again to me,
And voices tuned to long-lost melody?*

*O, summer winds, O, summer winds,
Come with your healing to my soul—
Blest chrisms of earth, of sky, of sea,
Bear on your wings to make me whole!
O, Mother Nature, hold me to thy breast,
And soothe and lull my fretful heart to rest!*





*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Tears of parting, ties of blood,
 Toil and turmoil, dust and strife,
 Joy and agony of life
Sink within the whelming flood.
All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Wastes of amethyst and gold;
 Mountain ranges of the sky;
 Domes ethereal floating high;
Splendors of creation old.
All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!*

*Pearly morn and fervid noon,
 Raining diamonds on the sea;
 Evening rapt in mystery,
 Tender light of star, of moon.
 Where the shining ripples play,
 Dwellers of the mystic spheres,
 Wondering at our mortal fears,
 Throng the moon-glade's silver way.
 All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
 Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
 Dream I of eternity!
 Countless myriad birds a-wing,
 Now on sun-lit wave a-brood;
 Crying now to God for food,
 Wild discordant voices ring;
 All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
 Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
 Dream I of eternity!
 See leviathan asleep!
 Wakes he now 'mid plumèd spray,*

*Now the sea-folk round him play,
And the billows o'er him leap.
All encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Fly we from the onward march
Of the frightful water-spout!
'Mid the rush and roar and shout
Gleams the rainbow's radiant arch.
All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Lo, the iceberg's ghostly fleet!
Band of pallid, questing souls,
Drifting till, mid-way the poles,
Tropic streams their coming greet.
At the phantom fleet aghast,
All the air grew chill as death,
Shivering in the Arctic's breath,
As the vision slowly passed.*

*Pacing caverns dim with gloom
 To and fro, a polar bear,
 Prisoned in his icy lair,
 Drifting to relentless doom!
 Mountain-dream and argosy,
 Crystal dome agleam afar,
 Crystal hull and mast and spar,
 Move adown the wondering sea!
 All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
 Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
 Dream I of eternity!
 Leaden wave and leaden sky;
 E'en the stoutest heart stands still
 Feels of ocean-soul the thrill,
 As the night-wrack towers high.
 In fierce combat now engage
 Demons riding flying clouds;
 Rushing squadrons of the air;
 Cyclone trumpet's awful blare;
 Shrieking of the trembling shrouds;
 Chaos of tumultuous rage!*

*All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast.*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Then the calm, with silence shod
Kissed the billows to repose;
Fog impenetrable rose;
Shut us in alone with God.*

*All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Lost the land, the sky, the sea;
Lost the light of sun, of moon;
Nature failing in a swoon,
Swathed and lost in mystery.*

*All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
So the wonders of the deep
Sank into my very soul,*

*Strove to make the heartbreak whole,
As my spirit lay asleep.
All encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

*/ Old ocean, lulled by thee,
Dream I of eternity!
Love's Horizon Infinite,
Hold, ah, hold in Thine embrace
Destiny of all our race,
Through the darkness, through the light!
All-encompassing, stupendous, vast,
Sweeps the horizon round our swaying mast!*

.

While the Apostle of Love was rocked on the
bosom of ocean,
Lulled by wind and wave, and the all-encom-
passing vastness,
Lo, in unfaltering faith, on the shore of the
western horizon,
Waited a dauntless soul, till the Lord should
grant his petition.

While yet thy ship afar was veiled in mists of
the morning
Did not my heart within me leap at the voice of
the Spirit,
Telling me thou wert come whom I so long had
expected?



Book Two

“ Through yonder open casement I behold the grave of a man the recollection of whom swells my heart with gratitude, and fills my eyes with tears. . . . There rests the precious dust of the friend of strangers, whose hospitable doors were ever open to the destitute, and to him who had none to relieve his sufferings. I myself, once thrown on these shores a desolate stranger, this Christian man brought me to his habitation. . . . Even now I behold in imagination his venerable countenance. Bignity is seated on his brow, his mind is apparently open and confiding; tranquillity reposes upon his features, and the expression of each varying emotion evinceth that faith which is the parent of enduring peace, of that peace which passeth understanding. . . . This dear man, this American ‘MAN OF ROSS’ . . . was a gem of the first quality, and notwithstanding the crust, which from his birth enfolded him, yet by the rubs he suffered from the pebbles among which he was placed, this crust was so far broken as to emit upon almost every occasion the native splendor of his intellect. Had this man in early life received the culture of nature’s hand-maid, what a luminous figure he would have made! But the God of nature had stamped upon his soul the image of Himself, *unbounded benevolence*. . . .

“ Peace, peace to thy spirit, thou friendly, feeling, faithful man; thy dust is laid up to rest, near the house thou didst build for God, but thy spirit rests *with God* in the house built *by Him for thee*.”

JOHN MURRAY



AVE PATRES

HAIL to thee, Prophet of Love! untutored
save by the Spirit,
Light didst thou see afar, and didst build for
its home foundations.
Hail to thee, Love's Apostle! thereon didst thou
plant a sure beacon
Glowing with light divine, unquenchable guide
in the night-storm.

Fierce though long tempests have striven
Love's beacon of hope to extinguish,
One by one at this flame the Lord's right hand
hath enkindled
Torches of golden sunlight; and ancient altars
are glowing,

Where through the age-long pain thunders and
lightnings have threatened.

Hail to ye, brave hearts and true! steadfast,
undaunted of error,

Love proclaimed ye as Lord supreme, as the
Parent Almighty;

Brotherhood claimed ye for all mankind, amid
the vast turmoil—

Vision sublime, resplendent, longing and dream
of the ages!

.

LONE Thomas Potter stood on the shore deep
musing at sunrise,

Absently scanning the silvery spoils of a night
on the ocean.

Strong of frame was the man, wind-scarred like
his oaks and rugged.

Doomed to perpetual loss through the greed of a
churlish father,

Naught had he known from boyhood of pen or of
printed paper.

Burdened with toil on farm and sea passed the
days of his springtime.

Then slow his woodlands and meadows had
/ widened, till now half a thousand
Acres stood to his name, yet cramped was his
life's near horizon.

But though his life was sore crippled, shut out
from the treasures of knowledge,
Eagerly searched his spirit, with wings out-
stretched, for her birthright,
Drinking deep of the water of life out-poured
from the Scriptures,
Read in response to his earnest prayer by each
passing preacher.
And, as they read, his ear caught whispers of
something far greater,
Something his soul was craving, wider than
aught they preached of.
Long had he cherished the thought to build a
house with his own hands,
Open the while to all, but waiting the preacher
he longed for.
Worn were his hands and his garb with wearisome
toil, but his eyes shone

Deep 'neath his whitening locks with the fire
divine therein smould'ring:

Stone upon stone have I laid the walls in mortar
well tempered;

True and plumb are the corners, strong their
burthen to carry.

Cedar and oak have I felled with long labor,
my keen axe resounding,

Ringling a tuneful chime the while I was hewing
the timbers—

Corner-post, rafter, beam, and roof-tree—and
riving the shingles.

Stone of the field and tree of the forest all offer
praises

Unto the Lord and Giver, to whose name now I
devote them.

Here shall Truth one day find a home awaiting
her coming,

Simple and unadorned, with foundations firm
and enduring—

Gift of my heart and hands to my Maker, whose
word I am waiting.

While I labored my heart was singing the
/ praise of my Master,
And as I sang, the stones took part and the trees
and my cattle:

*Stones of the field, stones of the field, for ages long
have ye waited!*

*The Master now calls you, rejoice, rejoice!
Cry aloud in praise with your new-found voice!
Long the ages your song have belated.
No more be ye dumb,
Through the years to come!
The Lord is waiting, He gives you voice;
Ancient stones cry aloud, rejoice, rejoice!
With your praises my ox-team is freighted.*

*He owns the cattle on a thousand hills,
Yet, my sturdy team, the Master wills
That you alone of His vast, uncounted herd
Should have part in this home for His promised
word.*

*Ye should be proud
To be allowed*

*To labor thus for Him
Before whom bow the heavens, and chant the mighty
cherubim!*

*Bend now your strength to the creaking yoke,
Slow with stone whose silence my sledge hath broke,
That we together this house may raise—
My cattle and I—to the Master's praise!*

*Come with me, come with me, stately trees of the
wood!*

*Generations long have ye waiting stood—
Waiting a Voice.*

*Now the Master is calling,
To my axe are ye falling,
Rejoice, rejoice!*

*Again shall ye stand,
By the help of my hand,
And we together
Shall sing His praise,
As your strength I raise—
Your loyal hearts laid bare to the weather.*

*Come with me, come with me, silent trees of the wood,
Lay down your lives for Brotherhood!*

*And the Lord of Life, the Giver of Good,
Unto you the voice of a trumpet shall give—
Sweet-toned, silver, ringing clear,
Bidding the slaves of fear,
Men and nations, rejoice and live!
Rejoice and live! Rejoice and live!*

Long hath my house been open to preachers of
every persuasion—
Meek-faced man of peace who spake as moved
by the Spirit,
Circuit rider aglow with tempestuous fires of
emotion,
Elder o'erbrimming with zeal to bless the world
by immersion,
Churchman in flowing robes intoning liturgical
measures,
Puritan stern of mien, inflexible master of
logic—
Wide has my door been thrown for each to
deliver his message.

Still from my heart of pain cries a void which no
man hath measured,

Wherein my fellow-men, e'en the myriad sinners
of all time,
Refuge may find and hope, exceeding aught
these have told us.
Surely my thought is no higher than His who
created the heavens!
Surely my love is no deeper than His who was
pierced for transgressors,
Whose great heart of love must be deep and
wide as the world's need!
Oh, that the Lord would incline His ear to my
humble petition,
Offered at early morn, at noon, and in the
night season!

Smiling the sunlight gladdens my path, as if joy
were my birthright;
Aged oaks branch above my head, as if longing
to bless me;
Sometimes the ocean rocks my boat, as if 't were
a loved cradle;
Sometimes I feel the sky bending over me,
pitying, yearning;

Night with her starry eyes looks down, as if
watching my vigil;
Winds caress my sun-brown cheek, and the
tremulous air seems
Full of murmuring voices, striving their secret
to utter.
Ever there whispers and beckons something
tenderer, stronger,
Luring by day and by night my hungering soul
toward the unknown.

*Now broods a tender light upon the sea;
Sweet voices of the forest whisper low;
The sunset wraps my soul in mystery—
Whither and whence do the drifting ages flow?*

*Now cries a voice of terror through the storm;
Vast hangs the gloom on forest and on sea;
From Nature's wrath I shrink; her dreadful form
Crushes my soul with awe and mystery!*

*Is there a Hand of Love that guides the world,
Through all the mazes of our checkered way;
That turns the shafts by cruel tempest hurled;
That leads from darkness to eternal day?*

*Or does some despot rule our destiny
With iron rod, his glory to enhance;
Who turns Him not our pleading hands to see—
Or are we victims of dull, aimless Chance?*

*Look down, kind Heaven, and listen to my cry!
Wherefore the ceaseless round of human
woe?*

*Is there a Heart of Pity in the sky?
Whither and whence do the pitiless ages
flow?*

Dreamed I the Master Fisherman came and,
fishing beside me,
Drew forth a mighty multitude out of the
wondering waters—
Yea, as He gathered them in He emptied the sea
of fishes.
Mused I beside my ripened wheat, making ready
to reap it,
When by my side stood the Lord of the Harvest
and put in His sickle,
Gathering all, the light and the full heads, into
His garner,

Gleaning the stalks that were scattered and
broken, to crown the glad harvest;
Whispered my cry had reached Him, and soon
He would answer my longing.
Waking, the sun shone with greater glory and
wider my vision.

Would that He to whose name I have built a
house with mine own hands—
Built in the hope He would send me a man to
disclose His great goodness,
Would He but show me clear the thought that
has vaguely haunted
Fishing-boat, forest, and farm, as I have wrought
at my labors,
Throwing a halo o'er earth and sea and the face
of my brother,
Making me sure that the Ruler of Heaven in
glory supernal,
He who hath given me bread from my farm and
food from the ocean,
Seedtime and harvest, friendship, home and
fireside affection,

Must be more near than a sovereign, to breathe
on my spirit this yearning—
Would that the Lord might be gracious and
bring me the light I have longed for!

So mused lone Thomas Potter, aflame with his
high intuition,
As, with his net well filled, like Peter's, he put
up his tackle—
Wanting the dayspring in whose golden light
our souls are rejoicing.

Slowly the fog was lifted from over Cranberry
Inlet,
Lifted from Barnegat Bay and the tide-swept
shore of the Jerseys.
Poising and wheeling the seagulls rejoiced in
freedom and plenty.
Wafted like incense the vapors ascended to
heaven as the sun rose,
Matins of praise in majestic rhythm rolling in
from the ocean—
Prelude of worship sublime, when Day enters
Earth's vast cathedral.

*Thou dwellest not in temples made with hands;
Each silent mountain that majestic stands
With mighty shoulder underneath the sky,
Is but a pillar in Thy temple! High
From peak to peak the aërial arches spring
And, mounting heavenward, of Thy glory sing.*

*Beneath, vast lands and ocean spread a glittering
floor;
Mid-air, like hovering angels, rapturous clouds
adore;
The hills and woodlands, sweet with bird-song,
soft their carols raise;
The deep-toned cataracts and flowing rivers chant
Thy praise;
Winds waft the wonder of Thy name from land to
land,
And, where the crashing billows roll upon the
strand,
A ceaseless anthem rises unto Thee,
Sounding Thy praises from eternity!*

*Nor dost Thou most delight to dwell in these,
On purple mountain or on sapphire seas,*

*Nor in the hush of mystic woodlands fair,
Where breathes the spring upon the trembling air;
Nor vaulted arch nor dome Thy glories span—
Thy habitation is the heart of man!
This ancient shrine is Thy Most Holy Place,
Where Thou dost meet Thy children face to face.*

Then spake the Spirit to him who for many a
year had been waiting:

“Lift up thine eyes, O man, and behold afar in
the offing

Yonder bark hither bound—it bears my servant
to bless thee;

Get thee in peace to thine house, and there shalt
thou presently greet him!”

Swift as the lover seeks his beloved, or bird her
nestling,

Homeward strode this man of faith, and eagerly
waited:

Waited impatient as day wore on, till the
twilight descended.

Then through the lanes of the forest he saw a
stranger approaching;

Broken he seemed with sorrow, yet still in his
youth he was comely;

Watched him pause and scan the meeting-house
as he passed it—

Built of logs well-hewn was the house, within
wrought of sweet woods

Fragrant and pure of breath as the sacred
Lebanon cedars,

Lifting for Israel arms of prayer through the
desolate ages—

Watched him gaze at the ancient oaks that bent
o'er the building,

Standing guard with sheltering arms round this
cradle of promise,

Saw him draw near and more near, till he
paused to speak at his threshold.

Cast on a foreign shore the sea-worn, famishing
stranger,

Victim of contrary winds and scanty store of
provision,

Sought as a favor a fish to buy for himself and
his comrades.

“Nay,” spake Potter, “I will not sell what is
mine for the taking;
Thine is the fish for the asking, and gladly I give
what thou cravest.
But thee thyself would I keep; for long have
I looked for thy coming,
Built thee a house wherein to declare the word
of thy Master,
Waited and watched and expected; to-night
shalt thou bide in my dwelling!
While yet thy ship afar was veiled in mists of
the morning,
While still I mused on the shore and offered
again my petition,
Did not my heart within me leap at the word of
the Spirit,
Telling me thou wert come whom I so long
had expected,
Whom the Lord had sent to make known the
truth I had longed for?
This be thy home; thy chamber is ready, and
truly my heart glows
Warmly for thee, for the Lord hath told me thou
art His servant.”

Startled as if by a bolt from the heavens, the stranger made answer:

"Nay, it may not be thus, for I sail with the first
wind that favors;

Costly cargo is in my care and I may not desert it;
But when my shipmates have eaten thy gifts and
have satisfied hunger,

Gladly will I return and accept for the night of
thy shelter."

"Art thou a man of God," quoth Potter, "and
darest keep silence,

Dar'st thou break the command of thy Master
who sends thee to bless us,
Hiding under a bushel the light which God hath
shown thee?"

"When the wind shifteth I go: I have said it,
nor shalt thou delay me!

Be not deceived for never again shall my tongue
break silence:

Nevermore face I the wrath of man, from which
I am fleeing,

That I may hide my woe-worn heart from the
shafts of sorrow!"

Restless the rocking sloop in the bay was riding
at anchor,
Breasting a strong east wind that blew inshore
from the ocean.
Steadily sang the wind, and steadily importuned
Potter,
Plead with the man of God to stay and deliver
his message.

Standing with up-raised hand, cried the agèd
Prophet of Dayspring,
While from his deep-set eyes bright gleamed the
fire prophetic,
Lighting his furrowed face and his grizzled
beard with its radiance:
"Mark well my word: *The wind* NEVER *will*
change till thou speak to this people!"

.
*Winds of Orient, steadfast blow !
Do not let your captive go !
Hold him on the waiting shore !—
Faith's long vigil now is o'er.*

*Fog and sea-winds turn his prow ;
Eager Faith is breathless now—*

"Mark well my word: The wind never will
change till thou speak to this people."



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at anchor,

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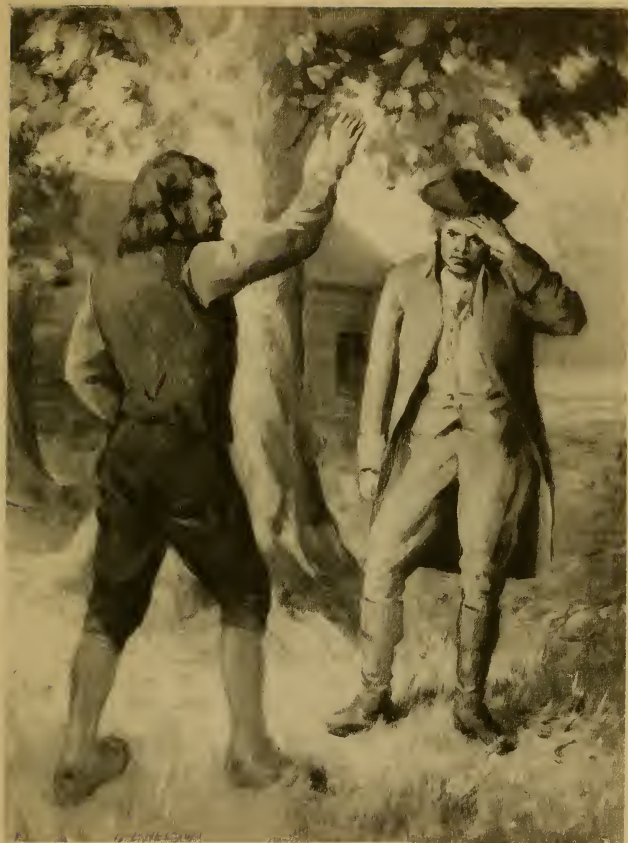
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Hold him on the waiting shore !—
Faith's long vigil now is o'er.*

*Fog and sea-winds turn his prow ;
Eager Faith is breathless now—*





*Soul to soul the fateful hour
Draws with deep, mysterious power.*

Tempests, blow your trumpets loud !

Shake afar your banners proud !

Gale and night-wrack, loud with fear,

Keep the storm-bound pilgrim here !

Mighty sea-winds, steadfast blow !

Long the ages toil and slow ;

Hope has waited long the light—

Sweep away the mists of night !

Winds of morning, hither blow—

Man his destiny would know—

From the cradle of the morn

On your golden pinions borne !

Faithful winds, oh, steadfast blow,

Till the Lord His mercy show !

Blow, winds ! Over land and sea

Broods the ancient mystery.

Day after day blew the gale till now it was
Saturday evening,
Never it veered a point, and at last John Murray
consented.

Then Thomas Potter rejoiced, called his men
and quickly gave orders;
Told them to saddle and ride in haste to summon
the people,
Dwellers in woodland, on farm and on shore,
and many a league round:
"Bid them come all," said he, "to hear the
man I have looked for;
Day is far spent and the Sabbath draws on—
away, do not linger!"
Forth sped the galloping horsemen through
wood-lane and hamlet by moonlight,
While the old man gave thanks that his prayer
drew near its fulfilment.

*A leap to the saddle! Now, comrades, away! the
news to the countryside bringing.
We'll scour the borders of Barnegat Bay, echoes
flying and hoof-clatter ringing!
Forward! Forward! Tra la la! Tra
la la! Tra la la!*

*Ride, Gabriel, south, on the Waretown trail, and
Joshua west'ard to Whiting,*

*And I'll push to north'ard through forest and swale,
the whole Manasquam district inviting!*

*Forward! Forward! Tra la la! Tra la
la! Tra la la!*

*Ho, Neighbor John, I bring thee news; my master
bids thee to meeting!*

*Come all on the morrow! Come fill the pews! Give
the stranger a rousing good greeting!*

*Forward! Forward! Tra la la! Tra la
la! Tra la la!*

*Wake, Captain Jones! come, prithee, wake! and
hear the word of my master.*

*I cannot tarry, I speed must make! On Royal!
Faster! Faster!*

*Forward! Forward! Tra la la! Tra la
la! Tra la la!*

.

*Shut in his chamber alone, storm-swept was the
soul of John Murray.*

*Gone were the joys of his youth, and death, the
ruthless destroyer,*

Long since his home had invaded, and ravished
his heart's best treasure;
Gone were friendship and fame, and the rights
of conscience denied him;
Home and country abandoned, a fugitive he
from England,
Where excommunication had branded with
shame his forehead.
What would the Lord require of him here, afar
among strangers,
Here in this land of refuge, whither sorrow had
driven him,
Whither from many lands the streams of life
were converging?
Longed he amid the swirling tides to be lost in
the New World,
Where he might drown his grief, till summoned
to follow his dear ones.
How should he minister unto this soul who his
coming had waited,
One who with faith's clear vision had seen and
rejoiced in his coming?
Fierce the wild tumult and storm swept the
prostrate soul of the exile!

Down the long, shadowy vista beheld he in
mighty procession
Kindreds and peoples forth-driven, sailing to
regions of sunset;
Squadrons breasting the ocean unto the haven
of longing—
Where dim the flame of liberty smouldered,
ready to blaze forth—
Unto the dream-land-bourne of the race, whither
Hope flew before them,
Seeking manhood to rescue from out of the
clutch of the spoiler;
Under a free sky seeking space for a brotherhood
ampler,
Saw he that God would here make known Love's
new dispensation.
Sore the anguish and travail-throes of the soul
of the pilgrim,
Bringing to birth her message supreme, Love's
gracious evangel.

Watching his night-long vigil, the preacher
communed with the Spirit;

Sought he the Will Divine, imploring the
 Answering Presence;
Grappled with fierce self-will in mortal conflict,
 and breathless,
Heard the shuddering olive sigh in Gethsemane's
 darkness;
Heard the prayer of forgiveness breathed by
 Calvary's Martyr;
Saw Love's pallid face, thorn-crowned, gently
 upbraiding;
Looked on the wounded feet, nailed fast, for him
 ever waiting;
Yea, and the piercèd hands, out-stretched man-
 kind to ingather.

Long and o'erwhelming the struggle that rent
 the soul of Love's Herald,
Heart-break and fear of the world's cruel scorn
 against Truth and the Spirit—
"How shall I carry the burden that Thou hast
 sent to this people,
I that feared the face of man, disregarding Thy
 summons,

I that resisted the Voice of Thy grace and fled
from its calling?"

*Go, Herald of the Morn, fear not
Thy message to proclaim;
Throw light upon man's lot,
His sorrow and his shame!
The light that shone in Galilee
Hath been by men obscured;
The years have waited long for thee,
The darkness long endured—
Now Fear release her hold;
Now Love Almighty make thee bold!*

*The Living Word His Spirit will impart,
Set free thy tongue, and nerve thy shrinking heart.
Fear not the face of man! He will defend
His servant; He will courage lend;
Alone He suffered many things for thee:
The wrath of man, the shame, the agony.*

*The darkness needs the light, sorrow the comfort
needs
Which unto thee the Lord of Light hath shown;*

*Fear not, O man of God, thy Master own!
Love-led shalt thou go forth, but not alone,
He whom thou servest shall with thee abide,
His aid and comfort ever at thy side,
Though to the Mount of Suffering perchance He
leads.*

*Calm all thy fears!
The coming years
Shall bring thee mighty fellowship:
A countless throng
Shall bear thee company with joyous song,
Their steps illumined with the light which thou
hast brought—
Speak, Love's Apostle, speak and fear thou naught!*

*Then did his soul, borne aloft in prayer, illu-
mined, exalted,
Rise on her wings to heights aglow with un-
speakable visions:
Saw he the age-long strife and pain of humanity
ended;
Evil destroyed by the Hand that created, its
mission accomplished—*

Gloom terrific, mysterious, night of the earth-
shade averted,
Turned from the day till it mourn for the joy
and the splendor of sunlight!
Spirits of men, made strong in the fight, re-
joicing in freedom;
Heaven and earth at one, night-shadows dis-
solved in sunshine;
Might of the Ancient of Days victorious, Love
ruling all worlds!

Brooding the winds of night invited the weary
to slumber,
While in the tops of the trees the voice of the
ocean, rejoicing,
Flowed in murmuring song, and the forest re-
peated the welcome;
Soft the tremulous leaves and the tuneful wood-
minstrel voices
Welcomed the watcher lone, and breathed their
balm on his spirit.

Pulsed through the starry vast a thrill of awe
and of wonder

Deep as if the World's Heart, the Soul of all
being were near by—
Presence unseen, mysterious, waiting to make
self-revelment,
Nature expecting Love's Herald, her innermost
meaning to utter.
Spell-bound the forest glades and the night-folk
listened and waited;
Soft in the oak tree sighed the trembling mistle-
toe's whisper;
Odors of scented grass, sweet fern and rich
pennyroyal,
Bay leaf and crisping moss, aroma of resinous
pine cones,
Breath of dulse and seaweed and salt spray
faintly borne inland,
Blending as incense pure, bore heavenward the
prayer of the night-breeze.

Solemn the slow constellations mounted their
guard, mailed in glory,
Over the place where Faith met Love, sacred
forever,

Whence should flow a light to illumine the
uttermost shadow.

Over the chamber of wrestling the Angel of Hope
hung expectant.

Longing to hear her name made known to the
faint and despairing,

Sought she some clue to unravel the mystery
borne on the night wind,

Riddle of destiny luring and baffling the soul of
the ages.

(Angel, sweet ally and comforter, never, ah,
never desert us!)

Circling in flight labyrinthic and slow o'er
Faith's hallowed rooftree,

Wove she aërial ways for love's heavenward-
climbing petition;

Paused she to scan the deepening glow on the
waking horizon,

Wakened by gleamings of mightier, oncoming
aid for the wrestler.

Gliding athwart the heavens, over the slumber-
ing nations,

Over the good and evil, over the just and the
unjust,
Bent archangels twain apparelled in raiment
supernal,
Flowing in lustrous folds like the trailing galaxy's
glory—
Messengers sent of Him whose face no mortal
may look on.

Elder was one of the glorious pair than the
spirits primeval;
Younger his luminous mate than the seven
mighty archangels
Lucent with vast renown in the hierarchy of
Heaven,
Who, with bright squadrons unnumbered,
immortal, as sunbeams rejoicing,
Ever as glittering halos encircle the throne of the
Unseen:
Michael excelled they, the Crucifer, valiant
commander of Heaven's host;
Jophiel, guard of the Tree of Knowledge, also
surpassed they;

Zadkiel, stayer of Abraham's knife, upraised on
his own son;

Chemuel, who with Jacob did wrestle all night
and did bless him;

Gabriel, bearing to Daniel clear vision, to Mary
the lily;

Raphael outshone they, of men potent healer,
of youth strong protector,

Messenger gracious; Uriel, sun-dweller dazzling,
eclipsed they—

These and the nine thrice-blessèd choirs to the
twain made obeisance,

Who forth-moving, all Heaven was a-light with
the sheen of their glory.

Sprung from the Source of all Being, ere æons
and cycles 'gan moving

Round the immutable throne, Time had ne'er
ploughed his deep furrow

Where sat ineffable calm serene on the brow of
the elder.

Rivers of light the folds of his robe did radiate
goodness,

Waking answering gleams divine in the soul of
the creature,
Till in the luminous flood shone the deepest
recess of creation.
Infinite love and compassion distilled on the
night from his pinions,
As in the wonder of June, from the locust tree's
redolent clusters,
Perfume outpours on the night-airs that brood
over hillside and valley.

Sprung from the heart of the Son of Man, how
gracious the younger
Glowed with youth immortal, with joy of
humanity's future!
Wistfully wondering wherefore so long the
plaint of the helpless,
Moved by awakening powers to wrest the
oppressed from the spoiler,
Deep from his eyes shone the soul of all human-
kind fathomless, regal,
As of a god newborn, awaking to mingled
emotions,

Pity's gentler rays amid flashes of fierce indignation,
Deep with the travail, heart-hunger, the dreaming of long generations—
Dreams of magnificence paling the splendor of kingly usurpers;
Stately the domes of beneficence raised by the will of the many,
Where in the halls of a selfish past haughty luxury flaunted
Trappings of insolent pride in the face of the woes of the people;
Loosened the hold of Greed, released its perishing victims,
Thrilled by the emancipating touch of the radiant presence,
Thrilled by the heartening rhythm of human-kind shoulder to shoulder;
Room for the spirit of man to grow to the stature that God meant;
Nobler largess of life 'neath the sun, and when earth is forgotten—
Dreams, fair dreams of life more ample in store for the humblest!

Vast loomed the twain from horizon to zenith,
filling the heavens,
Blinding mighty Orion, Arcturus, outshining
their splendor;
Dimming fierce Argol, the Demon's Eye, Dragon
and Scorpion quenching.
Rose they with movement majestic while Joy
ran ever before them,
Proudly chanting pæans adown the path of
their glory.

Through the long-arching skies antiphonal
breathings responded,
Bidding the sons of men awake and join in glad
welcome;
Luring blest souls e'en from Paradise-raptures of
worship and high deeds,
Souls once enslaved of the flesh, grown free and
strong in the heavens,
Lovers of men, companions erstwhile of our
toil and our earth-bonds,
Yearning more eager as slow our night rolls
nearer their sunlight.

Summoned were powers of light to witness the
will of the Highest:

Angels, archangels, and spirits supreme who
stand in His presence,

Servitors clothed in apparel of lightning, His
glory their dwelling,

Swifter than light His word to obey, in power
resistless.

Lo, 'mid the throng, in her arms fondly bearing
his glorified firstborn,

Bent o'er the couch of John Murray the wife of
his youth, sore lamented,

Breathing peace on his soul and gently soothing
its tumult.

Blossomed the air as when cherry-bloom snows
drop silently earthward,

Borne on the wings of soft breezes of April, and
cover the hillside.

Quivered the night with the strong restraint of
the mighty immortals

Wheeling in myriad ranks through the multi-
tudinous heavens,

Poising in rapt adoration, Love's gracious re-
vealment awaiting,
Countless as orbs of light in the midsummer
firmament's glory.

Then like a bird sore wounded that startles the
hush of the forest,
Sudden heavenward rose a plaint—Mother-
Earth pleading:

*“Lo, my children scattered far,
Burden all the air
With cries of long despair!*

*I feel upon my bosom fall
Hot tears of men like rain—
How burns my heart with pain!*

*Darkly sets each glowing star,
Dayspring tarries long,
Sorrow's hold is strong.*

*The offspring of my fertile womb
Throng life's fevered quest,
And soon in darkness rest.*

*From age to age I hear them call;
They gasp, they reel, they die;
Cold in my arms they lie.*

*My immemorial past a tomb,
How mocks the glad sunshine
These countless dead of mine!*

*Fate is cruel, man is brave;
Waits a fairer bourne
For the years that mourn?*

*Who my troubled sons shall save,
Who their fetters rend,
Who my grieving end?"*

Then a Voice filled the expectant vast with
ecstasy: "Lo, I
Send forth ye messengers twain to destroy the
powers that vex Man;
Man, my son, that of old, from eternity lay in
my bosom,
Waiting till slow-paced cycles should wake his
slumber to being—
Soul of my soul, partaker of Deity's innermost
essence.

Over the abyss of the infinite Parent-love
 brooded till man was;
Till from the fathomless deep of the Heart of the
 Infinite rose MAN;
Rose to the struggle of Time that should fit him
 to be my companion.

“Sound ye the doom of the demons, Fear and
 Greed and Hatred—
Fear that would veil His face with gloom who
 rejoiced in creation,
Hushing the song of joy with horror of cruel
 foreboding,
Alienating the heir of worlds from the Parent
 who bore him;
Hideous vampire Greed that would drink the
 blood of the helpless,
Trading in ruin of manhood, of womanhood,
 tears of the children,
Bartering truth and light, freedom and country
 for gold-lust,
Things of the flesh exalting high above things
 of the spirit;

Hatred, implacable sower of strife, embroiling
the nations,
Laying earth waste with terror of cruel war's
conflagration;
Brother 'gainst brother, and race 'gainst race in
turmoil unending—
These all shall ye destroy, when they have fulfilled
my permission,
When man, my child, hath learned to resist the
allurements of evil,
Learned that life divine is joy, all else vain delusion.
Go ye and bury the past, open wide the doors of
the future;
Go, fill the heart of man with joy of my ripening
purpose,
Bear him light to dispel the clouds that have
kept us asunder;
Cry: Love is Lord to the uttermost, Love only,
now and forever!

"As the fierce storm-cloud, discharged of its
menace, melting to sunshine,

Waters the frightened hills and rejoices the desert
with verdure,

So, through tempest and flame, lead I to Love's
consummation.

In that day will the Lord of Hosts make a feast
to all people,

He will destroy the veil that is spread o'er the
face of all nations.

Vast though the billows of time be, storm-vexed
and laden with wreckage,

Mighty pulsations of Love's Heart they flow,
surging sunward forever

Unto the bourne of light, of life, darkness
forgotten.

Lo, as a mother doth tenderly nurture her first-
born for manhood,

Cycle on cycle bear I creation, laid in my bosom!"

Silent the heavenly choirs hold back, the twain
pressing forward.

Touch of the Light of Light, of creation's dread
Sovereign the signet—

Kissed by whose rays the night-pulse woke, in
ecstasy throbbing—

Hovered over the breast of the elder Earth-
filling presence

Tongues of living fire: FATHERHOOD OF THE
ALMIGHTY.

Joy prophetic illumined the face of this herald
archangel,

Foregleam of radiance caught from the triumph
of Love o'er the future;

Pity paternal waiting the slow-hearted growth
of earth's children,

Tenderly watching and sorrowing over the woes
of the wilful,

Over the pangs of the travail of humankind
climbing to daylight.

Shone on his godlike brow a frontal the flame
of whose burning

Shrivelled oppression and wrong and each
pitiless foe of the ages,

Waked the nations to light, illumined the dark-
ness of æons—

FATHERHOOD yearning, creating, rejoicing, life-
giving Fountain,

Law of all law, mighty Force of all force, of all
nature the Master!

Lo, in his hand uplifted a scroll written with
wonders
God would make known by this heavenly visitant
unto His children.
Fear fled amain and sweet peace dwelt with men
whereso lighted the glory.
Stronger than sorrow, than travail, than death
rose the mighty archangel,
Manhood exalting, sonship to God showing,
heritage royal.
E'en harassed Nature found refuge secure
'neath his wide-spread pinions.
Poured on the fields of night new life flowed
ever before him,
Quickening desert long dead, solitude thirst-
stricken, blasted,
Stunted and storm-swept growth on terrible
regions of famine,
Thick strown with wreckage of ages, sin-cursed
and scarred with destruction—
Life, more abounding life rolled its flood, reviving
creation,
Making the wilderness drear to bloom with rose
and lily,

Barren regions joyful singing with blossom and
fruitage,
Surging—resistless tide!—adown the shore of
the ages.

Forth from the palms of the younger a soft light
earthward was streaming,
Sweeter than early dawn to eyes that have wept
through the long night.
Writ on his hands, wide-extended, BROTHER-
HOOD shone like a pearl's glow
Streaming to all mankind, as he waited the word
of Love's Herald.
Wheresoe'er passed the breath of the robes of
the younger archangel
Weary eyes of pain looked up at the light with
glad hope,
Captives of grim despair wondered as day woke
the dungeon,
Victims of tempest-throe and horrible earth-
convulsion,
Victims of war's dread carnage, lifted weak
hands for succor;

Races of men long estranged drew nigh with
greetings fraternal,
Conscious of might erstwhile unknown, new-
born of their union,
Powers stupendous awaiting the welding of all
men in love's bonds—
Whereso fell gracious light from his palms van-
ished age-long shadows.

Hid in his robe, on his heart, lay a precious vial
of healing,
Balm distilled from flowers that gladden the
meadows of Heaven,
Sprung from seed of the lily that whitened on
Galilee's lakeside,
Seed of the blood-red rose of the thorn of
Calvary's passion,
Blossomsgathered by hands of the blest for love's
pure alembic.
Olive and oak intertwined on the brow of the
lord of the future.
Followed close in his light young Peace and
Strength, rejoicing,

Bearers of gifts undreamed from the treasure-house of the Father.

As now the mighty pair drew nigh where the
Pilgrim was pleading,
Into his soul flowed fast new strength and peace
and the air seemed
Tremulous with life. Then the elder archangel,
down-stooping,
Touched his eyes and, vision expanding, saw he
the whole world
Lie in the bosom of God, in the arms of the
Heavenly Father.
Touched then the younger archangel the heart
of Love's Apostle.
Coursed through his veins new warmth of life,
new love for the neighbor,
Till the whole world was transfigured in fellowship strong and enduring.

Then the Pilgrim to hearten the mighty visitants
whispered:

"Thou who hast seen the glory wherewith Love
Almighty hath clothed us,

Make us known to the sons of men, O Herald of
Dayspring!

Thou who hast put thy hand to the plough,
turn thou back never!

Up and down this Land of the Future drive thy
furrow,

Wherein the seed of light shall be sown by the
Master Sower;

Seed that shall grow to harvest—abundant
fruit of thy labor.

We will reap for the Master's glory, when thou
hast departed,

Full of years and scarred with toil for the mighty
World Saviour."

Soft from the dome of night breathed down
melodious measures,

Song of rejoicing hosts come forth to speed the
archangels:

As though a fresh-budding rose were each
rapturous voice of the chorus,

Wafting her delicate fragrance afar on the soft-
blowing summer—

Dream of the land of the sun, whose odorous
orange groves murmur
Unto the frozen north, rejoicing the heart of
the winter;
Soul of the stately pine, harp of whispering
branches
Breathing æolian mysteries, storm-blown aerial
trumpets
Soaring, on-rush of seas in the chant of the winds
and the forest;
Myriad hillsides murmuring madrigals, ice-
fettters melting;
Myriad rivulets tunefully carolling down to the
sea's arms;
Spell of the waking dawn, mellow-toned robin
and wood thrush
Filling the tremulous air with orisons heralding
dayspring—
Vain, all in vain, sweet symphonies, vain all your
ravishing voices,
Striving to echo the ineffable joy that now
blossomed in Heaven!

VOICES OF THE HEAVENLY HOST

Come forth to bid the two mighty archangels—the elder bearing on his breast that most holy name, FATHERHOOD OF THE ALMIGHTY, the younger on his palms the blessed name of BROTHERHOOD—Godspeed on their heartening mission to Love's Herald, who is agonizing in night-long supplication at the home of the aged Prophet, and thence proceeding for the uplift and inspiration of the world:

First Voice.

Second Voice.

Chorus of Angels without Number.

The Nine Thrice Blessed Choirs.

Innumerable Voices of the Blessed.

Seven Archangels Chanting.

Mother of All Living.

Venerable Patriarch.

Lofty Seer.

Voice of the Hoary Past.

Voice of Progress in Times to Be.

Apostle of the Gentiles.

Voices of the Dead of All Ages.

Voices of Generations yet Unborn.

Voices of Air and Sea and Earth.

Universal Pæan.

*The Two Great Archangels Chanting, as they
Proceed on their Way.*

FIRST VOICE

"Who is this that cometh, that cometh with tidings? Tell me, O ye children of the morning, watching at the gates of Paradise!"

SECOND VOICE

"'T is Love's Apostle, sent of the Almighty. Alleluia! Love Almighty reigneth!"

FIRST VOICE

"Sing unto the Lord a new song and His praise from the ends of the earth! Sing, ye heavenly hosts, in Him rejoicing! Alleluia!"

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Sing, glad heavens, rejoice and sing;
Wide for Love the portals fling!
Love no more His face shall hide,
Tell the tidings far and wide;
Tell the lowliest of the race!
Love for him hath kept a place!
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

SECOND VOICE

"Awake, psaltery and harp; sing unto Him a new song! The chariots of God are twenty thousands and thousands of angels."

FIRST VOICE

"Yea, and the voice of many angels round about the throne, ten thousand times ten thousand."

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Let no longer fear appall,
High the Cross is reared for all.
Joy shall from the heavens o'erflow,
Light shall rise for all below.
Unconditioned Love is free:
Show the ancient mystery.
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

SECOND VOICE

"There is a river the streams whereof make glad the city of our God."

FIRST VOICE

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters!”

THE NINE THrice-BLESSED CHOIRS CHANTING

“Thou makest us to drink of the stream of Thy joy: for with Thee is the fountain of life.”

INNUMERABLE VOICES OF THE BLESSED

“In Thy light do we see light, O Thou who coverest Thyself with light, as with a garment!”

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*“Guard the Pilgrim’s lonely prayer,
Guard his vigil from despair,
Angels twain, his heart inspire,
Light within him heavenly fire;
Cheer the servant of the Lord,
Gird him with the Spirit’s sword!
Alleluia! Alleluia!”*

FIRST AND SECOND VOICES

"See the Son of Man enthroned beside His Father! Alleluia!

Love's Apostle cometh His sure triumph to proclaim. Alleluia!"

THE SEVEN ARCHANGELS CHANTING

"For He must reign until He hath put all things under His feet!"

THE NINE THRICE-BLESSED CHOIRS CHANTING

"Wherefore God hath highly exalted Him and hath given Him a name which is above every name."

THE SEVEN ARCHANGELS CHANTING

"Victor over all His foes triumphant. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!"

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Fly with earth-embracing wing,
Heaven and earth together bring!"*

*Sons of men, awake from sleep;
Love doth tireless vigil keep!
Waiteth Love from age to age,
Till ye find your heritage.
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

SINGETH ONE MOTHER OF ALL LIVING

"Behold, I bring you comfort, O my children!
Said not the Almighty that my Seed should
crush the serpent's head?"

SINGETH THE VENERABLE PATRIARCH

"Upon the plains of Mamre came the promise
unto me: In thy Seed shall all the families and
kindreds of the earth be blessed."

SINGETH THE LOFTY SEER

"Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your
God. For ye shall go out with joy, and be led
forth with peace:
The mountains and hills shall break forth before
you into singing, and all the trees of the field
shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree,
and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle
tree.

The glory of the Lord shall be made manifest,
and all flesh shall see it together."

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Hear the ancient promise, hear!
Banish doubt, ye slaves of fear!
Love hath treasures vast, untold;
Rises light, behold, behold!
Long the travail of the night—
Now behold the morning light!
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

VOICE OF THE HOARY PAST AWAKENING AS FROM
SLEEP

"What is man, that Thou art mindful of him?
And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?"

VOICE OF THE TIMES TO BE REJOICING IN THE
LIGHT

"For Thou hast made him but little lower than
God.

And crownest him with glory and honor.
Thou madest him to have dominion over the
works of Thy hands;
Thou hast put all things under his feet."

THEN THE SWEET SINGER OF ISRAEL ANSWERING
THE VOICE OF THE HARP

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good:
For His mercy endureth forever.
Yea, the burning of His love is a consuming fire
Which naught may quench.
Praise ye the Lord from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights.
Praise ye Him, all His angels:
Praise ye Him, all His hosts.
Praise ye Him, sun and moon:
Praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord from the earth,
Ye dragons and all deeps:
Fire and hail; snow and vapors;
Stormy wind fulfilling His word:
Mountains, and all hills;
Fruitful trees, and all cedars:
Beasts, and all cattle;

Creeping things, and flying fowl:
Kings of the earth, and all people;
Princes, and all judges of the earth:
Both young men, and maidens;
Old men, and children:
Let them praise the name of the Lord:
For His name alone is excellent;
His glory is above the earth and heaven."

THE GREAT APOSTLE OF THE GENTILES SINGETH

"Love never faileth.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall
all be made alive."

ANSWER THE INNUMERABLE DEAD OF ALL CLIMES
OF ALL THE AGES CHANTING THIS SONG OF
TRIUMPH

"As we have borne the image of the earthy we
shall also bear the image of the heavenly."

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Though man's warfare long endure,
Pledged the Cross, the triumph sure.
Sing the ancient mystery:*

*Love's transcendent gift is free.
Love's free gift no price may buy;
Sing aloud, rejoicing cry!
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

MURMUR AFAR AS 'T WERE A SONG OF CHILDREN
DREAMING VOICES OF COUNTLESS GENERA-
TIONS SPIRITS YET UNBORN

"If we go forth from God, obedient to His word,
in earthly tabernacles for a while to dwell, we
shall return again unto our Father's home."

VOICES OF AIR AND EARTH AND SEA REJOICING

"Awake, O North wind; and come thou South;
Blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof
may flow out!

Let the sea roar and the fulness thereof:
Let the fields rejoice and all that is therein.
Let the floods clap their hands,
Let the hills be joyful together!"

CHORUS OF ANGELS WITHOUT NUMBER

*"Sing, glad heavens, and all therein!
Love is Lord of Death and Sin."*

*Tarry not, archangels twain!
Haste with balm for Earth's long pain!
Risen Saviour, Thine shall be
Universal victory! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!"*

THROUGH ALL THE HEAVENS MELODIOUS WITH
PRAISE RISES A MIGHTY PÆAN LED BY HIM
TO WHOM THE VISION CAME ON PATMOS

"And every creature which is in the heavens, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying: Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.

The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever."

CHANTETH THE ELDER ARCHANGEL PROCEEDING
ON HIS MISSION

"His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father.

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all."

CHANTETH THE YOUNGER ARCHANGEL
RESPONDING

"And hath made of one blood all nations of men
for to dwell on all the face of the earth.
God is their Father, though Abraham be ignorant
of them, and Israel acknowledge them not: the
Lord is their Father and Redeemer;
His name is from everlasting."

.

While yet the heights were glowing with light of
the sweet-voiced immortals,
Darkness and clouds of earth in mountainous
ranges lay brooding
All the horizon, slowly up-climbing, obscuring
the vision.
Then on sleeping Earth fell rain in soft bene-
diction—
Fell on the just and the unjust forgetful of joy
and of sorrow.
Forth from pavilions of darkness, in radiant
silver apparelled,

Glided the moon, unveiled her face and, kissing
the rain drops,
Changed them, with magical touch, to jewels
trembling in mid-air—
Diamond, amethyst, ruby and sapphire, emerald,
topaz,
Showered on evil and good, their largess of in-
finite treasure!
Lo, in the night then a wonder! Behold, the
herald archangels
Faded from visible form, and, in place of their
vanishing glory,
Bent o'er the darkling world a rainbow! Infinite
promise
Glowed in the heavens as slumbering Earth
'gan to wake from her dreaming.

.
*On her stupendous axle turned,
The earth from darkness moves away;
The candle to the socket burned,
Is lost amid the light of day.*
.


Fleeing the night-birds cried: "It is dawn, it is
dawn," and the shadows

Westward crept as the sun, robed in splendor
of sea mists,
Ushered the Day of the Lord, the birthday of
Love's new evangel.

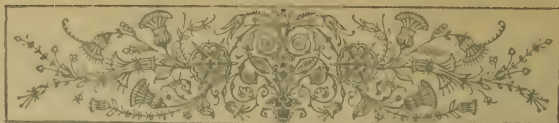




HUSHED was the meeting-house which
Potter had builded at Good Luck,
Whither from far and near had come at his
glad invitation
Husbandmen, seafaring men, and fishermen
bronzed by the sea wind,
Agèd men and women, youths and maidens and
children,
Gathered to hear the stranger their neighbor so
long had expected.
There, in the midst, in his high-backed pew,
surrounded by kinsfolk,
Waited the agèd prophet, in faith heroic and
dauntless,
Trusting the Lord had sent a man to sate his
heart-hunger.
Awed, in expectation, they looked on the face
of the preacher,



“Awed, in expectation, they looked on the face of
the preacher.
Silent and wistful gazed, as slowly the travel-
worn pilgrim
Rose erect in his place, his love-laden hands
wide out-stretching.”



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surrounded by kinsfolk,
Waited the aged prophet, in faith heroic and
dauntless,
Trusting the Lord had sent a man to sate his
heart-hunger.

Awed, in expectation, they looked on the face
of the preacher,



Silent and wistful gazed, as slowly the travel-
worn pilgrim
Rose erect in his place, his love-laden hands
wide out-stretching.
Dim were his eyes with tears and choked his
voice with emotion,
As with utterance low, he spake to the people
assembled:
"Brethren, to you have I come a homeless man
and a stranger;
Weary and tempest-tossed, the Lord hath
brought me among you.
Fleeing, like Jonah of old, I sought to escape
from His presence,
Sought, 'mid weltering seas or the fastness depth
of the forest,
Some far refuge to find from the Voice demand-
ing my service.
But while disheartened, I sought to evade the
command of my Master,
One among you hath built this house to the
name of Jehovah,
Waiting in hope through patient years of long
disappointment,

Trusting the Lord would here make known
the truth he had longed for.

Now in this holy place, made sacred by faith in
His promise,
Fairer in His pure sight—though built of the
trees of the forest—
Fairer than gilded shrines, resplendent with
trophies of conquest,
Here in this home of Love proclaim I the word
of my Master:

Faithful is He whom I serve, and none may hope
to elude Him.
Whether in crowded mart, or here on the edge
of the ocean,
Ever Almighty Love doth follow each wander-
ing footstep.

Long have ye dwelt in dread of the pitiless
wrath of Jehovah,
Wrath of a despot enthroned who could reprobate
for His glory
Innocent babes unborn and countless myriad
heathen—

Wayward sons or daughters, a lover from maid
torn asunder,
Or from her husband's side the wife of his youth
well beloved,
Hurled to helpless perdition while saints rejoice
in their torment—
Hideous dream of despair, maligning the gospel
of Jesus,
Shrouding the earth with gloom and the sun
with fearsome shadows!
Long have ye trembled in fear and sought to
make good your election,
If ye might haply escape with a remnant from
doom everlasting.
Know ye, the Lord hath never decreed this
terrible bondage,
Fairer the word of His grace: He sends me to
bring you good tidings,
Sends me to bear His word of healing and sweet
consolation.
Know ye that God is Love, that all mankind are
His children,
Know ye that Love is strong and may not by
evil be vanquished.

Love is the life of the world and moves all its
mystical forces—

Infinite Being transfusing and clothing Himself
in Creation—

Love murmurs low in the whispering wind and
cries in the tempest;

Moans on the inlet bar and chants through the
pine-trees yonder.

Love is Master of all. The thunder and light-
ning and whirlwind,

Smiting the terrified earth and upheaving the
ocean's wild billows,

Be but the servants of Love, to work His
mysterious purpose.

He whom as despot ye served is waiting to wel-
come His children.

Labor to grasp the vision that rose in the mind
of the Maker

When from the darkness evolving creation He
summoned earth's millions,

That He might joy in communion and bliss of
innumerable offspring—

Beauty the offspring of Order, Harmony master
of Chaos!

Vision sublime, love-crowned: brother to brother
united,

Humankind risen to God, and earth the glad
portal of Heaven,

Deity one with man, infinite regions before
him

Beckon his homeward steps, inviting to bound-
less attainment—

Vision majestic, eternal, purpose and goal of
creation!

Fear not the evils of life, O brethren, Love is our
Parent,

And for the least of His children yearneth
Almighty Compassion.

Brethren all are we, and though in our brief
earthly sojourn

Evil and sore be our lot, though grief and mis-
fortune despoil us,

Yea, though sin assail and bind us in horrible
bondage,

Be not dismayed! Ye sons of the Highest,
immortal your birthright!
Hard though life's pilgrimage be, 'tis the path-
way unto our Sure Home;
'Tis the beginner's school, where the Father is
teaching His children.
Be of good heart, O my brethren, Love Almighty
is Master!

Evermore, age by age the Infinite Spirit through
nature's
Myriad voices hath striven the whispered mes-
sage to utter.
But our dull ears refuse to hear and the sighing
wind passes.
Sunrise and sunset glory, the splendor of noon,
tender starlight,
Vainly their message rehearse, and the solemn
chant of the ocean.
Misunderstood their mystical breathings, the
mind of the creature
Pictures vast portents of terror, and gropes in
shadowy mazes.

Then in the fulness of time the gracious Heart
of Creation

Utters the burden of love for His own in articu-
late numbers—

Breathes in the voice of the Son of Man the
Goodness eternal.

Out from those wistful eyes looks forth the Soul
of the Unseen;

Out from the infinite depths Love Almighty
gazes upon us,

Waiting for wayward man to answer the voice
of His calling,

Calling from deep to deep in tones of infinite
longing!

Earnestly follow and cleave unto Him who
sought us in sorrow,

That He might make us kings and priests unto
God and His Father;

Who through obedience conquered, through
meekness subduing the nations.

He, the Long Promised, is Abraham's Seed, in
whom hath Jehovah

Sworn He would surely bless all families, kindreds, and nations,
Unto His servant Jacob the covenant also confirming—
Making Him Heir of the world, as also saith the apostle.
Abraham staggered not e'en at this promise, nor should ye, my brethren,
Ye whom the Lord hath set in families, ye and your kindred.
Trust in the Patriarch's Seed, in whom by the oath of Jehovah
All mankind, by the gift of His grace, shall partake of the promise;
Rest in the Lord, my brethren, we all be heirs of His goodness.
And lest this promise, so vast, should stagger the faith of the creature,
Unto the patriarchs made He an oath. Yea, Almighty Jehovah
Sware by Himself His word to fulfil—He could swear by no greater!
Ye who have found not the peace and happiness that your souls pant for;

Who but few blessings of time and of sense have,
look upward and forward!

Here tribulation awaits you, but patience! to
you is the promise.

When the wild storms of life wreck your hopes
with sore tribulation,

Think on the promise! When families parted
be, poverty presses,

Think on the promise! And in the last hour,
when earth is fast fading,

Rest in the promise of blessing to come, on the
oath of Jehovah!

*Alas, it is a heavy toll that man hath paid of
woe!*

*But there is One who maketh whole, who light for
all doth sow.*

*The floods are lifting high their voice, the rivers
chanting flow;*

*Mountain and vale with song rejoice—shall I the
joy forego?*

Now when the times were fulfilled that the
Seed upon earth should be dwelling,

Filled with compassion for men, for their weakness,
their sin and their sorrow;
When dark athwart His path loomed the Cross,
undismayed by its shadow,
Cried He, made He that promise so pregnant
with blessing for mankind:
Unto me, I will draw all men, if I from the earth
be up-lifted!

Into the Heart that was pierced on Calvary
mankind was crowded;
As saith the prophet: Behold the Lord maketh
the earth to be empty!
Yea, all mankind, their sin and their shame held
the heart of the GOD-MAN—
Where, He, between earth and heaven, in agony
died for our healing.
Man sought He, *man* hath He promised to find,
ere He cease from His labors:
Man be he never so lowly, unthankful or sunken
in evil—
Room had His great heart for all, yea, His word
hath He given for their ransom.

Ye too be heirs of His promise; for you is He
patiently waiting,
Ye and your children's children, to uttermost
dim generations.

Clothed with all power in Earth and in Heaven,
dared He to trust love!—

Love this Mighty One chose for our healing.
Love never faileth!

Shall *we* not surely trust love, when dealing one
with another?

Lover of men is He; withhold not your hearts
from His keeping.

He that was dead is risen and liveth forever
among us,

Moving, inspiring, communing and leading
from glory to glory.

Love incarnate in flesh, humanity's ultimate
Flower.

Ever the Sent of God, of every creature the
Firstborn,

Leadeth to life everlasting each soul that the
Lord hath created.

Courage, O Heart of Man! lo, Brotherhood's
 banner uplifted,
Sonship to God thy heritage, fear not, thine is
 the future!

Saviour undaunted by powers of evil, almighty
 to save men,
Longed-for Messiah, Anointed, Emmanuel seen
 of the prophets;
Son of the Highest, the lowly Companion and
 Brother of sinners,
Thou shalt deliver the world from its bondage
 to sin and its sorrow!

Life-Giver, Light of the World, Redeemer and
 Guide of the Ages,
None from Thy flock shall be lost when at last
 Thou shalt rest from Thy labors.
Yoke-fellow Thou of the weak, uplifting the
 burden that crushes,
Showing to grief new joy and rending the
 sepulchre's portal—
Mighty art Thou whom I serve, World-Saviour,
 triumphant, eternal!"

Then they all sang a hymn, the preacher leading
the singing,
Line by line the words before the singers pro-
nouncing:

*Creator of the land and sea,
Our souls in adoration bow
Before Thy might and majesty
And supplicate a blessing now.*

*Touch Thou our hearts with living fire,
Almighty Love upon us shine;
Outpour Thy Spirit and inspire
Our lives to make them wholly Thine.*

*Come dwell with us, Emmanuel,
The Dayspring's foregleam let us see;
Master of death, of sin, of Hell,
World-Saviour, haste Thy victory!*

Like to the gentle dew that sparkles, rejoicing
in sunrise,
Peace they had never known distilled on the
hearts of his hearers,

While in accents low he led them in prayer to
their Father.

.

Then Thomas Potter embraced John Murray in
sight of the people,

Crying: "My prayers are answered this day of
days of my whole life!"

.

Lo, as the people departed, a sailor came running
and breathless,

Shouting: "Ahoy, Supercargo, ahoy! the Captain
is fuming,

Waiting impatient to sail; for while thou wast
preaching *the wind changed!*"

.

Through the long after years of wanderings,
hardship, and sorrow,

Bearing the message of Infinite Grace, Love's
fearless Apostle

Faced revilings and scorn, and the chilling lot
of the outcast,

Led by the voice of the Man of Sorrow, whose
footsteps he followed,

Shame despising for greater joy of the Master's
triumph.

His were mighty companions twain through the
long years of travail:

Ever with ægis wing the archangel FATHERHOOD
hovered

Round his lone path, while BROTHERHOOD's
light the way illumined.

Rapt, on his deep-voiced shore, the agèd Prophet
of Good Luck

Wistful gazed afar at the steps of him he had
longed for;

Waited serene the summons divine to loftier
worship

Where Love Almighty, for whom he had builded,
waited his coming;

Where his pure soul no temple should need,
lost in love's adoration.



THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH NOT HAVING RECEIVED
THE PROMISES BUT HAVING SEEN THEM
AFAR OFF

*Give glory to the Lord of Hosts,
Enthroned in light above,
And glory to the valiant souls
Who dared proclaim His love;*

*Whose faith Almighty Love declared
Supreme o'er every foe;
Emmanuel, Victor Absolute
Of death, of sin, of woe.*

*A feeble folk and few they were,
Who mighty witness bore;
Our fathers sowed in tears, that we
Might reap abundant store.*

*The Church they leavened with new life,
Whose light is breaking fast;
That shall illumine sin's long night,
And heal the world at last!*





JOHN MURRAY COMFORTETH DESPAIR

*“Fond mother, wherefore dost thou grieve;
Why fall thy tears like rain?
So sweet the babe lies on thy breast,
Thy heart should know no pain.*

*“Hath some dark spectre cast his gloom
Where love’s clear light should glow?
Dost fear for thy children poverty;
Or hast some deeper woe?”*

*“Kind sir, I fear not poverty,
Nor ever have we lacked bread;
There lurks no spectre in my home;
Nor mourn I for the dead.*

*"In earthly love I rest secure;
Like springtime round me bloom
My children eight, yet I shuddering wait,
In dread of eternal doom!*

*"They blossom sweeter than the rose;
They are more than life to me;
But I dare not expect that they all are elect—
Oh, the heart-break, the agony!*

*"Nor dare I arrogantly think
His glory 't would magnify
All mine to save from the fiery wave,
Where so many He passeth by.*

*"Stranger, I know no rest from fear
Of my firstborn's piercing cry;
When moans the night I wake in fright
For my child, lost eternally!"*

*He showed her how the Blessèd One
All humankind would make whole,
By His pain and loss on the bitter Cross—
But the iron had pierced her soul!*

*Then the man of God opened Holy Writ,
And his eye fell on the page:
"Lo, the fruit of the womb is His reward;
Children His heritage."*

*The mother clasped her babe more close
And soothed its waking cry,
With a thrill of delight, as hope's glimmering light
Awoke in her tear-dimmed eye.*

*She conned the Scripture o'er and o'er;
Her smiles dispelled her tears;
"These children mine, Good Lord, are thine—
Then begone my faithless fears!"*

*Again met the mother and man of God,
When a half score years had fled;
With rapturous voice did she still rejoice
That her heart he had comforted.*



IN THE FIRMAMENT OF HIS POWER

*Strong in gravitation's might
Countless orbs that wheel the void
Thread their mazy paths of light,
Lest they, swerving, be destroyed.
Ruled by love all worlds are swayed,
From Love's hand they may not fall;
Be not, anxious soul, dismayed;
Love is strong to care for all.*

*By this power mysterious held,
Dimmest star, to man unknown,
Rolls secure, though distance-quelled;
Safe with Him who guards His own.
So the sin-scarred soul, undone,
Dimmer than the faintest star,
To destruction may not run;
Held by Love, though straying far.*

*Sprung from God, to God we tend;
Love immutable is strong
All His children to defend
From the blight of sin and wrong.
Life immortal is our goal;
Though sin's death may long endure,
Life shall triumph in each soul,
Love Divine sin's hurt shall cure!*





ALL SOULS ARE MINE

*Lay we this erring one to rest
In the arms of Mother Earth;
Finished the long and fevered quest—
A new world gives him birth.*

*What unimagined word shall thrill
The waking, wondering soul;
What powers of Love unknown shall fill
The air to make him whole*

*We know not, but the word is sure,
That Christ shall Victor be;
That sin shall pass, and Love endure
Through all eternity!*



THE LILAC BUSH

*In my hand I hold a spray
Of lilac sought when early day
Was fresh with dew, and all the air
Was redolent of odors fair.*

*Winter-long, through storm and cold,
Peeping buds the spring foretold;
At my window, undismayed,
Bid my heart be unafraid.*

*As I wrought from day to day
Looked the buds upon my toil;
Soothed my spirit, called away
From life's labor, fret, and moil.*

*Now the stem's fair children form
A cluster, as when bees, a-swarm*

*For teeming flight, afar would roam
To found anew a murmuring home.*

*Each little blossom in its place
Found waiting its appointed space;
The stem a wealth of beauty wreathed,
As ONE the spray its fragrance breathed;*

*The while each tiny floret lent
Its meed of perfume and of grace.
Amid the bloom I hid my face,
In ecstasy of joy content!*

*As all my being fragrance drank,
Into my soul the vision sank
Of humankind, the mystery
Of human solidarity.*

*And is each life a life alone;
Or is our race a cluster fair
Of bloom that scents heaven's fostering air—
A swarm for larger mansions flown?*

*And is this cluster that we see
God's only flower; or may there be,
Upon Life's wondrous tree so high,
Infinite blossoms in the sky?*



THE APPLE-TREE

*Housed and clothed and daintily fed,
What to me are the burdened years
That into silence long have fled,
With their turmoil, dust, and forgotten tears!
From winter's cold and summer's heat,
My sheltered life is kept secure;
Nor storm upon my head may beat,
Nor grinding hardship I endure.*

*Limned on the night-gloom round my bed,
Behold an ancient apple-tree
Whose branches arch above my head,
Fragrant with bloom, and fair to see!*

*Anon, by vernal breezes strown,
The blossoms drifted on the night;
And, where so late sweet buds had blown,
Hung coral and gold in clusters bright.*

*A wonder of the grafting art,
Each limb a various apple bore;
In each the gnarled trunk had part,
Whose blood outpoured the fertile store.*

*I plucked, I ate—my members all
Waxed light and strong with prowess new;
I felt the galling fetters fall,
Freedom before me, beckoning, flew!*

*Again I reached a tempting limb,
Low bending with its luscious load—
Fled from the world night-shadows dim;
Light streamed upon man's darkling road!*

*Eager the fairest fruit I found
And, as I ate, Love took my hand
And, shedding joyance all around,
Led to a vast and radiant land*

*Where all men were as brothers, where
As they passed together on the way,
For the weak the strong did burdens bear
Toward their waiting home in the realms of
day.*

*While deep I pondered, wondering,
A presence stood beside my bed,
With sun-lit face and folded wing,
And with voice of thrilling accent said:*

*Prize well the fruit of this mighty tree,
Nurtured with toil of untold years;
Fed by the Fathers' blood for thee,
And long time watered by their tears!*





LOVE-LED

*O searcher of the maze of thought,
Whose tangled systems intertwine,
Behold the touchstone Christ hath wrought,
The talisman of Love Divine!*

*The sun o'erwhelms our feeble fires,
Dispelling fear and gloom of night;
So Love the vexèd soul inspires
To grasp the truth, with clearer sight.*

*The simple seeker after God,
With Love to lead as Polar Star,
Shall traverse fields divine untrod
By seer and sage more learnèd far.*

*Intuitive the heart perceives
The deep foundations God hath laid;
The Love-led soul Heaven's truth receives,
Where tangled systems are dismayed.*



RESURGAT

*Sleep, Potter, sleep!
Love will keep
Thy memory green.
For we have seen
In larger measure that thou longedst for,
As through the opening heavens' ampler door,
On us the light hath streamed
Which unto thee so precious seemed.*

*Man of Faith, sleep well!
That thou so long ago didst wait so patiently,
Urging thy plea for all humanity,
The Church of Christ now gladdens, as the light
Breaks slowly through the shadows of the past
Upon her eyes at last! at last!*

*The while, with face irradiate, she greets the rising
sun—*

*The day supreme for man begun,
When he shall see his Father's face,
And brotherhood transform the race—
While joy abounds where long hath brooded night.*

*Lone watcher for the light, sleep well !
The coming years shall tell
Thy simple story :
How thy purpose never altered,
How thy courage never faltered
How, the Spirit's whisper heeding,
Thou, obedient to His leading,
Didst await the coming glory ;
How the light
Burst upon thy sight !
How thou didst rejoice
When at last a voice,
Sent of God,
That heralded the Morning Star,
Rising all the world to lighten,
Rising man's dark lot to brighten,
Love Divine proclaimed as Master—*

*Love, o'erflowing wider, faster,
Like a tide triumphant, pouring in
Upon the world, to wash away its sin;
Surging into every sea and gulf and bay with
mighty sweep,
Filling each thirsty pool and inlet, making shallows
deep,
Sea-weed and marsh-grass, brake and eager sedge
Full drinking at the bountiful water's edge—
Love Almighty unconditioned, free,
Life imparting to the famished soul,
Life imparting to the mighty whole,
Leading man to his high destiny!*

*Prophet of light, sleep well!
Thy spirit shall not sleep,
But, onward marching, keep
Our souls a-flame,
And to thy name
Shall love's soft requiem swell
Above the sod
Where lies this patient seeker after God.*

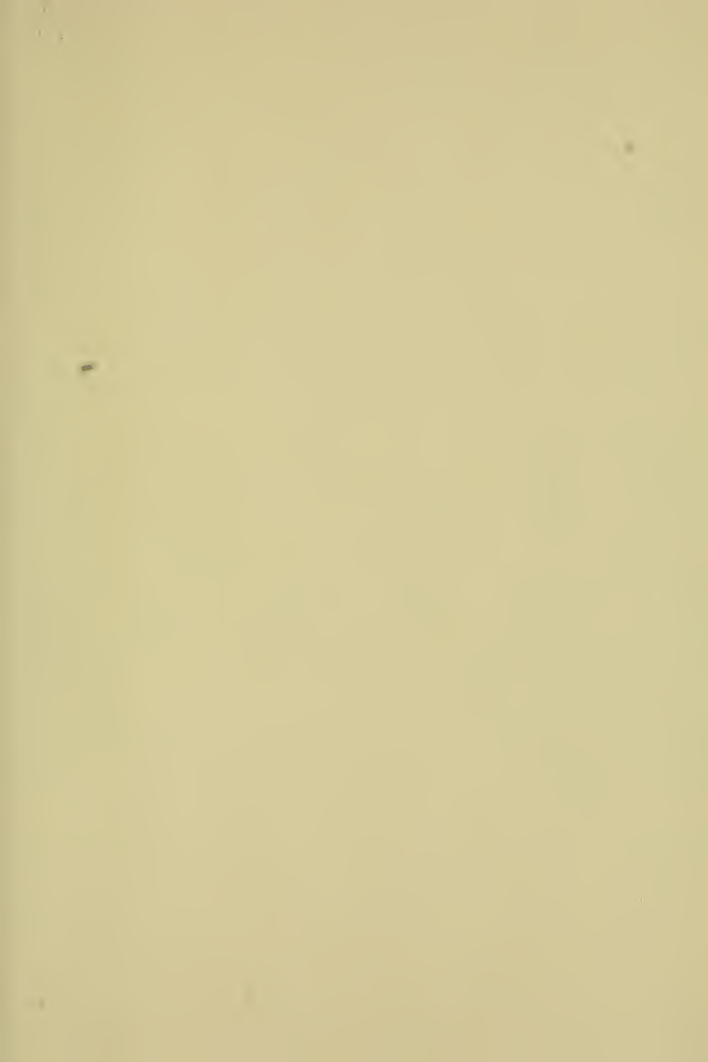
If thou couldst build a house for Him whose light

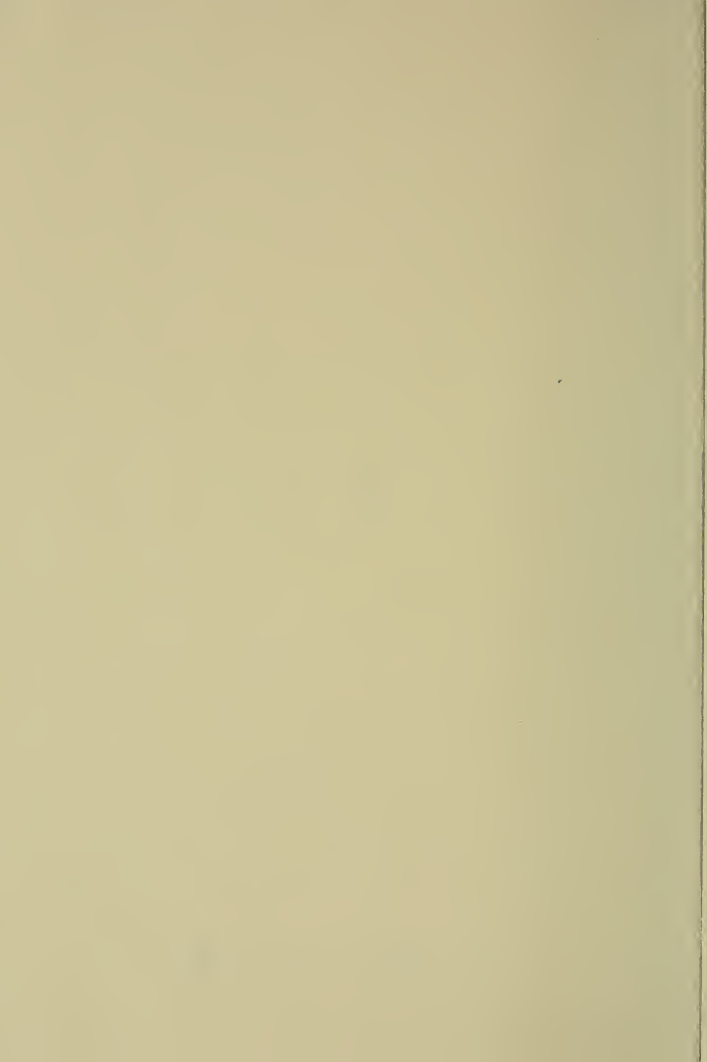
*Shone dimly on thy sight,
Cheering thy lonely path with radiance from afar,
Shall not we, whose eyes behold the Morning Star
Risen in fuller splendor,
Flooding earth with foregleams of the coming day,
Nobler temples build
And wider service render,
Till this great land and every land be filled
With truth's pure light, 'neath the World-Saviour's
 sway;
The long, long night of anguish flee away,
And earth look forward to a heavenly bourne
Where dwells immortal Joy, where Grief forgets
 to mourn;
Where Truth, transfigured in our risen Lord,
Shall make us free, rejoicing in the Word!*

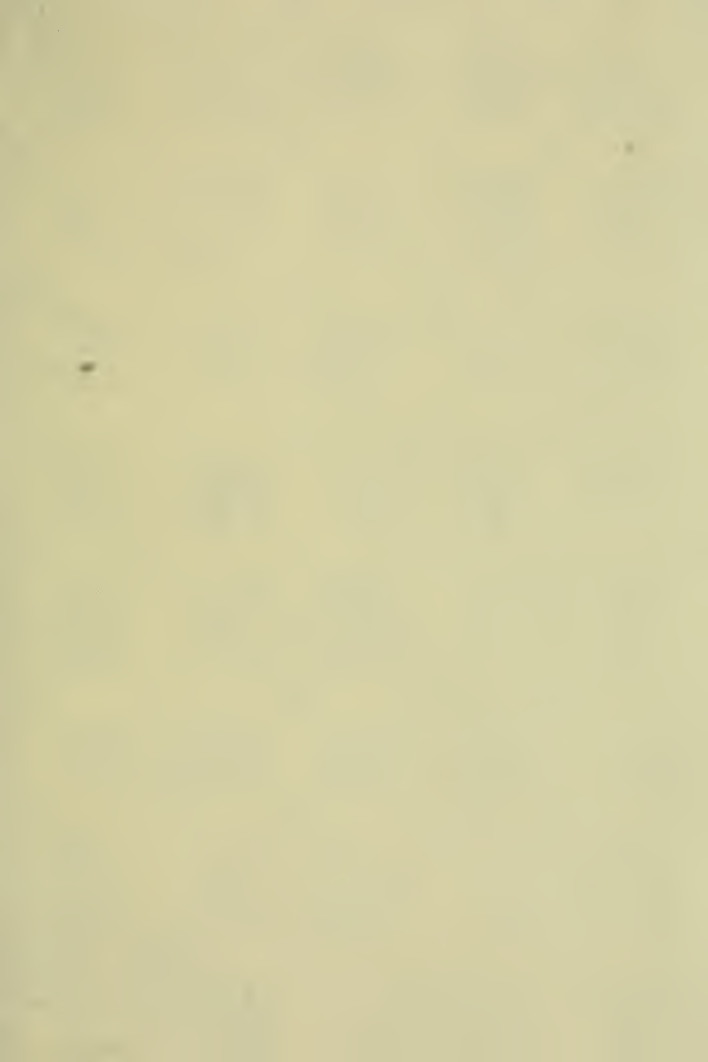




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